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VOLUME 35

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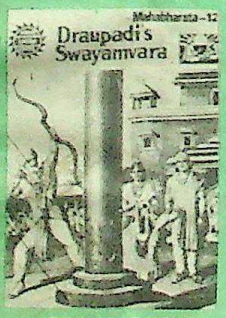
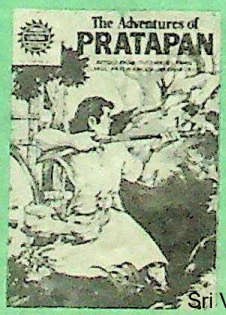


DRAUPADI'S SWAYAMVARA



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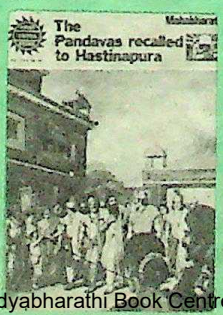

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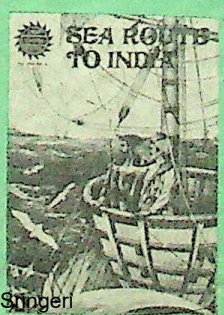

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Mahabharata–12

Draupadi's Swayamvara

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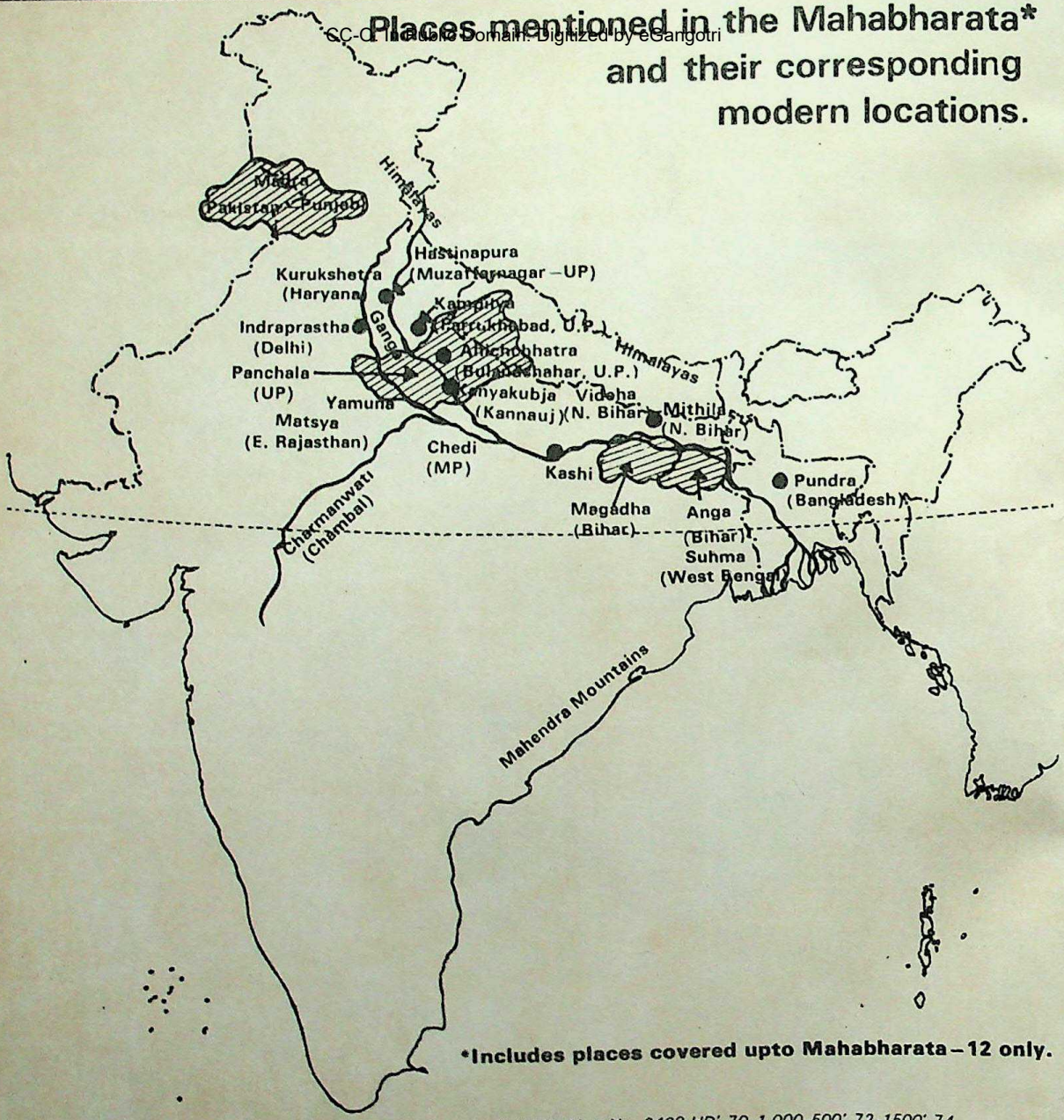

*Includes places covered upto Mahabharata—12 only.

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No. 351 February 15, 1986

Published by H.G. Mirchandani for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd., Mahalaxmi Chambers, 22, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Bombay 400 026 and printed by him at IBH Printers, Marol Naka, Mathuradas Vissanji Road, Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

Distributors in U.S.A: Admans Enterprises Inc. 1123 Broadway Suite 1010, New York N.Y 10010

Subscriptions : (In India only)

Rs. 48/- for 12 issues and Rs. 96/- for 24 issues. (Add Rs. 8/- for outstation cheques). Sole Authorised Agency for Subscriptions : Partha Books Division, Nav Prabhat Chambers, Ranade Road, Dadar, Bombay 400 028.

Editor : Anant Pai Associate Editors : Kamala Chandrakant • Subba Rao • Yagya Sharma

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Art Consultant : Ram Waeerkar Production : Govind Kotwani

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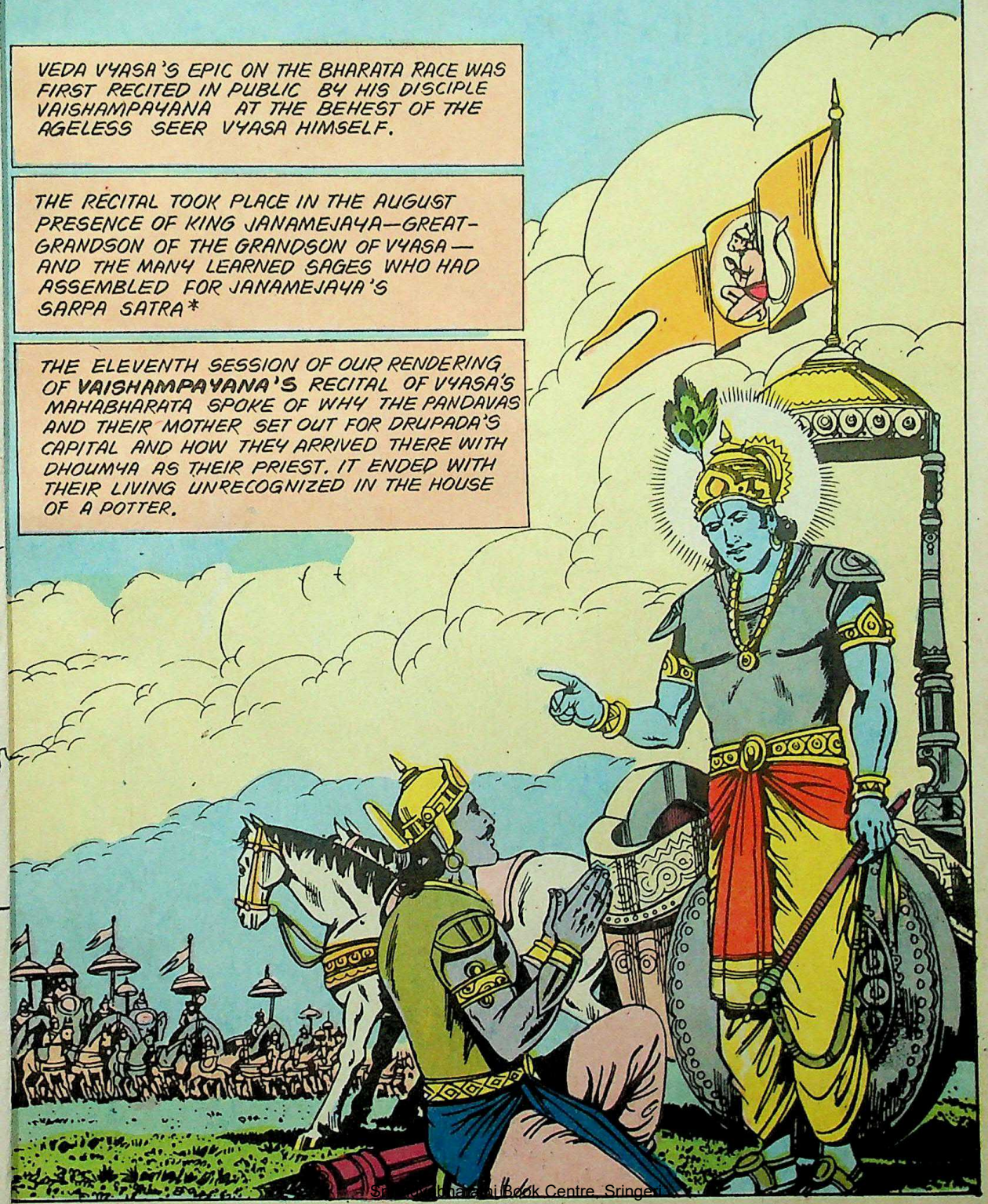
Draupadi's Swayamvara

VEDA VYASA'S EPIC ON THE BHARATA RACE WAS FIRST RECITED IN PUBLIC BY HIS DISCIPLE VAISHAMPAYANA AT THE BEHEST OF THE AGELESS SEER VYASA HIMSELF.

THE RECITAL TOOK PLACE IN THE AUGUST PRESENCE OF KING JANAMEJAYA—GREAT-GRANDSON OF THE GRANDSON OF VYASA—AND THE MANY LEARNED SAGES WHO HAD ASSEMBLED FOR JANAMEJAYA'S SARPA SATRA*

THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF OUR RENDERING OF **VAISHAMPAYANA'S** RECITAL OF VYASA'S MAHABHARATA SPOKE OF WHY THE PANDAVAS AND THEIR MOTHER SET OUT FOR DRUPADA'S CAPITAL AND HOW THEY ARRIVED THERE WITH DHOUMYA AS THEIR PRIEST. IT ENDED WITH THEIR LIVING UNRECOGNIZED IN THE HOUSE OF A POTTER.



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*12-YEAR-LONG SNAKE SACRIFICE

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DRUPADA, O MONARCH, HAD ALWAYS HAD SECRET HOPES OF GIVING KRISHNAA* IN MARRIAGE TO ARJUNA. AND SO HE HAD A STIFF BOW MADE WHICH WOULD NOT BE WIELDED BUT BY THAT SON OF KUNTI.

HE ALSO HAD A TARGET SET UP HIGH IN THE SKY. THEN HE ANNOUNCED THE SWAYAMVARA AND ITS CONDITIONS.

"MANY KINGS HEARING OF IT, CAME THERE AND WERE WELCOMED WITH DUE HONOURS BY DRUPADA. SAGES AND BRAHMANAS, KEEN TO WITNESS THE SPECTACLE, ALSO CAME THERE.

"THE PANDAVAS TOO WENT AND TAKING IN THE UNSURPASSED SPLENDOUR OF THE KING OF THE PANCHALAS...

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* DRAUPADI

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"...TOOK THEIR PLACE AMONG THE BRAHMANAS. THE CONCOURSE OF MEN RECEIVING AMPLE DONATIONS AND WATCHING THE PERFORMING ARTISTES HAD SWELLED DAY BY DAY TILL, ON THE SIXTEENTH DAY, THE DAUGHTER OF DRUPADA, TASTEFULLY DRESSED AND AMPLY BEJEWELLED...

"...ENTERED THE ARENA.

"THEN A PRIEST, PURE IN BODY AND MIND, POURED LIBATIONS OF GHEE AS ORDAINED INTO THE SACRIFICIAL FIRE. HAVING HONOURED AGNI THUS AND WON THE BENEDICTION OF THE BRAHMANAS...

"... HE THEN SILENCED THE MANY INSTRUMENTS OF MUSIC PLAYING ALL AROUND. AND WHEN THAT VAST ASSEMBLY...

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"...BECAME STILL AND SILENT, DHRISHTADYUMNA, THE SON OF DRUPADA, SAID:

LISTEN TO ME, O KINGS. MY SISTER DRAUPADI SHALL BECOME HIS WIFE WHO, DISTINGUISHED BY BIRTH LOOKS AND STRENGTH, CAN ACHIEVE THE FEAT...

...OF HITTING THAT TARGET, WITH FIVE ARROWS SHOT AT ONCE, THROUGH THE GAP IN THE MECHANISM.

"DHRISHTADYUMNA THEN ADDRESSED HIS SISTER THUS:

DURYODHANA, YUYUTSU AND OTHER MIGHTY SONS OF DHRITARASHTRA, KARNA, SHAKUNI, SHALYA, BALARAMA, KRISHNA, JAYADRATHA, SHISHUPALA, JARASANDHA AND MANY OTHER RENOWNED KSHATRIYAS HAVE ALL COME HERE FOR YOUR HAND.

THESE MIGHTY MEN ARE TO HIT THE TARGET. AND YOU SHALL WED THE ONE WHO HITS THE MARK.

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"THEN THOSE KINGS, EACH VAIN OF HIS OWN PROWESS AND JEALOUS OF THE OTHERS, ALL SMITTEN BY THE DARTS OF KAMADEVA, ENTERED THE ARENA. AS THEY HAD EYES ONLY FOR DRAUPADI THEY DID NOT NOTICE THE PANDAVAS. KRISHNA THE YADAVA, HOWEVER, NOTICED THE FIVE BRAHMANAS DISTRAUGHT BY KAMADEVA'S SHAFTS AT THE SIGHT OF DRAUPADI. HE REFLECTED FOR A WHILE AND SAID TO BALARAMA:

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THAT IS YUDHISHTHIRA. THAT IS BHEEMA AND ARJUNA AND OVER THERE THE TWINS. I HEARD THAT THEY ESCAPED THE BURNING HOUSE OF LACQUER.

"AND AS THE CELESTIALS FILLED THE SKIES, THE MANY KINGS, WHO COULD NOT STRING THAT STIFF BOW EVEN IN THEIR FANCY, STRAINED THEIR MIGHT TO WIN DRAUPADI. BUT THEY TURNED BACK DISPIRITED, THWARTED IN THEIR HOPES AS THEY WERE BY THE STIFF BOW.

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"AND THEN, BEHOLDING THEIR PLIGHT, KARNA PICKED UP THE BOW...

"...STRUNG IT WITH EASE, PICKED UP THE FIVE ARROWS...

"...AND TOOK AIM. BUT DRAUPADI WHO WAS WATCHING HIM, THEN SAID LOUDLY:

I WILL NOT WED A SOOTA.

"KARNA SHOT A GLANCE AT THE SUN...

"...AND THREW DOWN THE BOW WITH AN ANGRY LAUGH.

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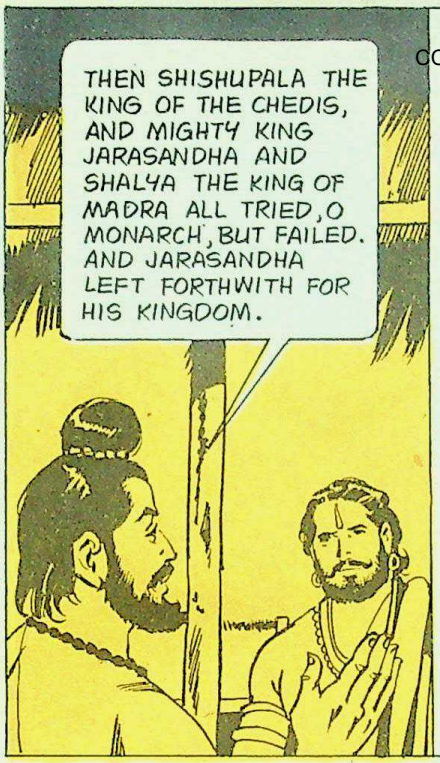

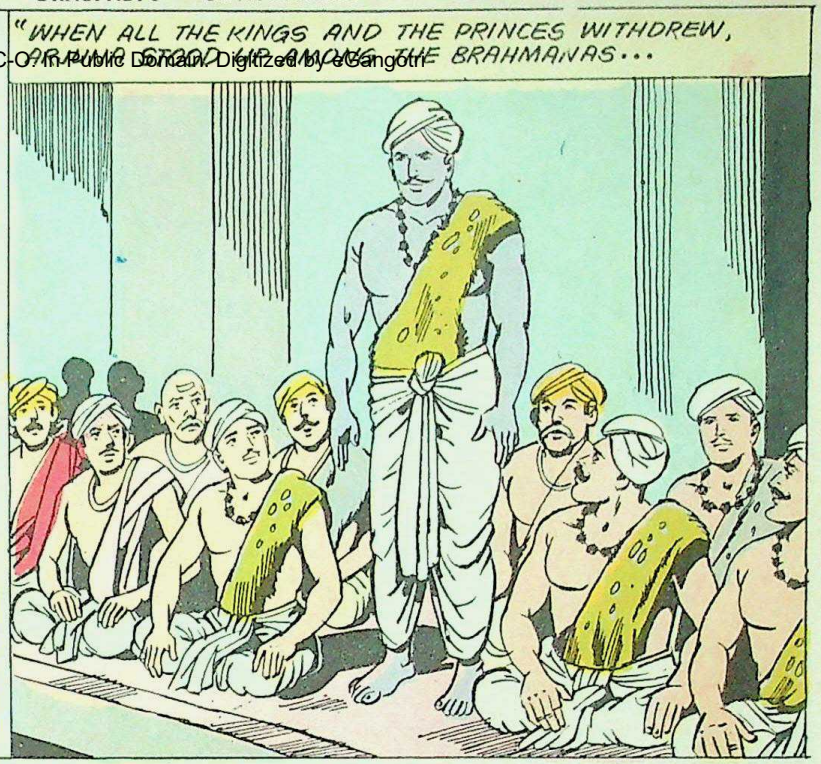

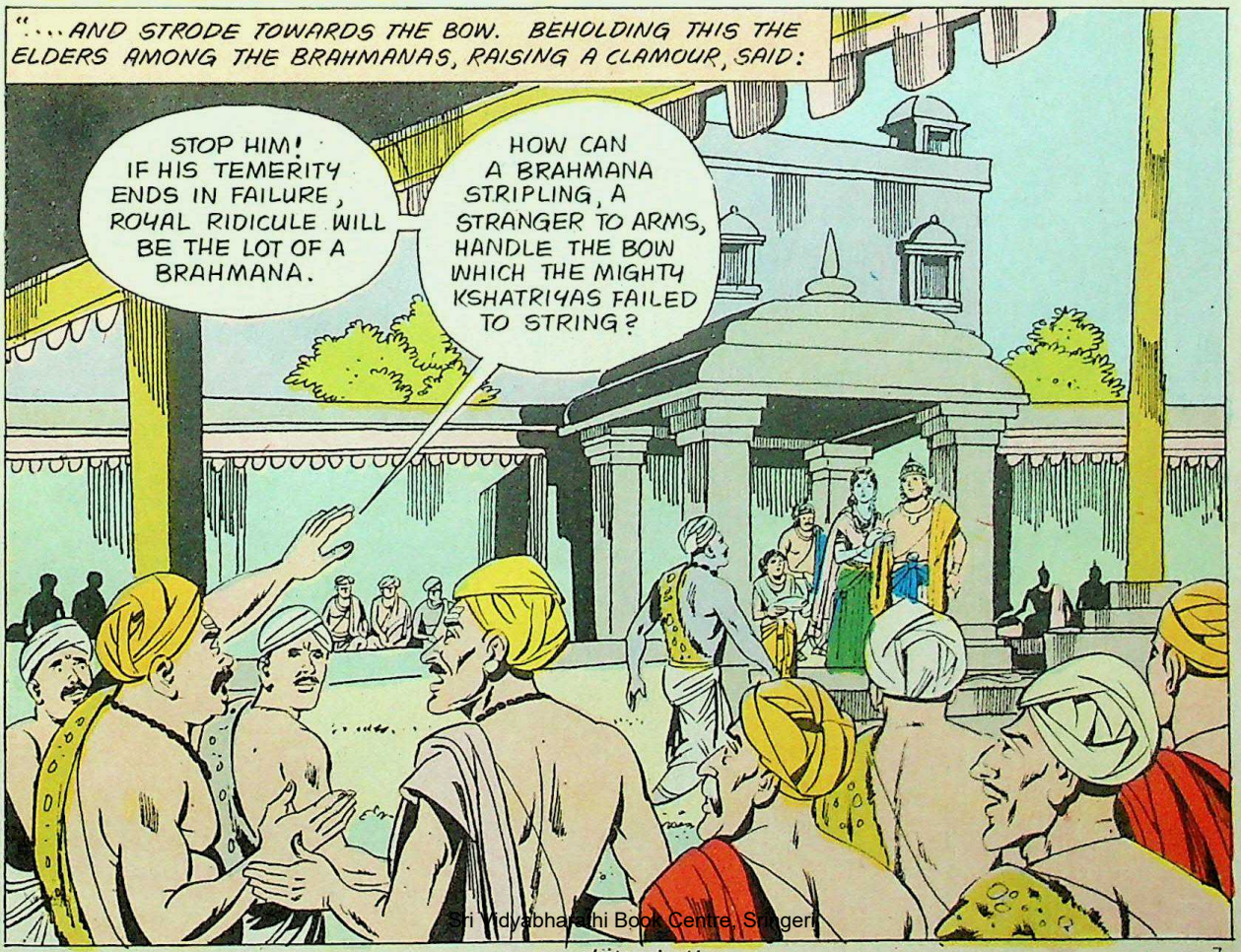

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"BUT SOME OTHERS WHO WERE ELATED SAID:

THIS YOUTH HAS THE STRENGTH OF WILL. HE MAY SUCCEED.

SELF-CONTROL. MAKES THE BRAHMANA MIGHTY. SO LET US ANNOUNCE OUR APPROVAL.

"AND MANY SAID:

SO BE IT.

SO BE IT.

"ARJUNA, IN THE MEANWHILE, APPROACHED THE BOW...

"...TOOK IT UP...

"...AND STRUNG IT.

"THEN TAKING AIM WITH THE FIVE ARROWS...

"...HE SHOT THE MARK THROUGH THE GAP IN THE MECHANISM.

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"...AND BROUGHT IT FALLING ON THE TARGET. A HUGE, SOUNDS FROM THE SKIES AND THE EARTH RENT THE AIR. THE CELESTIALS SHOWERED FLOWERS ON ARJUNA. THE BRAHMANAS WAVED THEIR DEERSKINS IN JOY. THE KINGS AND PRINCES UTTERED CRIES OF WOE. AS THE DIN SWELLED UP, YUDHISHTHIRA AND THE TWINS LEFT THE SCENE AND DRAUPADI TURNED HER STEPS TOWARDS ARJUNA.

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"THEN THE SHOCK OF THE KINGS AWAITING DRUPADA'S DECISION GRADUALLY TURNED INTO ANGER AND THEY SAID:

IT IS ORDAINED THAT THE SWAYAMVARA IS FOR KSHATRIYAS. BRAHMANAS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE AT ALL!

YET, SLIGHTING US, DRUPADA WOULD GIVE AWAY THIS GEM OF A WOMAN TO A BRAHMANA.

WE MUST ENSURE THAT NO SUCH HUMILIATING SWAYAMVARA WILL BE HELD HENCEFORTH!

WE CANNOT SLAY A BRAHMANA. SO LET US SLAY THIS TREACHEROUS KING AND HIS SON AND CAST HIS DAUGHTER INTO THE FIRE BEFORE WE RETURN TO OUR KINGDOM.

AS THOSE MIGHTY WARRIORS TOOK UP THEIR WEAPONS AND RUSHED AT DRUPADA, O MONARCH...

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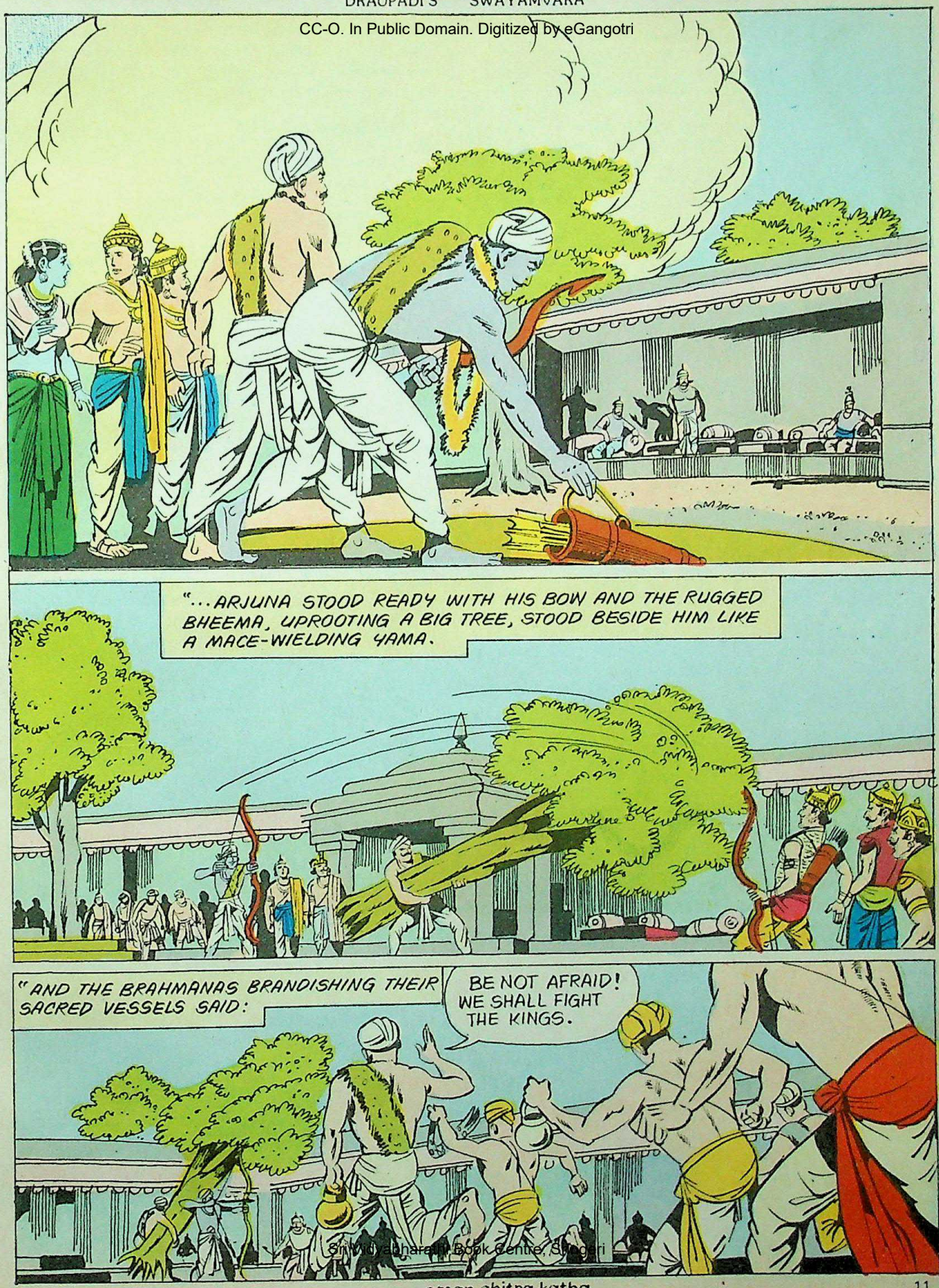

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"YET HE STRENUOUSLY HELD HIS OWN...

"...AND ATTACKED ARJUNA WITH RAGING FURY. EACH ONE, O MONARCH, FOUGHT TO WIN.

"AS THEY EXCHANGED WORDS OF CHALLENGE...

BEHOLD THE MIGHT OF MY ARMS!

MARK THIS, MY COUNTER MOVE!

"...KARNA BECAME AWARE OF THE MATCHLESS MIGHT OF ARJUNA AND HE FOUGHT WITH ENHANCED VIGOUR, AND THE SKILL WITH WHICH HE PARRIED ARJUNA'S SHOWER OF ARROWS...

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"...AND THE ROAR HE LET OUT EARNED HIM THE RESPECT OF THE WARRIORS.

"THEN KARNA ADDRESSED HIS RIVAL:

O BRAHMANA, I AM PLEASED AT THE MIGHT OF YOUR ARMS. NO ONE SAVE ARJUNA CAN FACE ME IN THE RAGE OF BATTLE.

ARE YOU THE EMBODIMENT OF THE SCIENCE OF ARCHERY? OR ARE YOU INDRA? OR VISHNU? PERHAPS YOU ARE ONE OF THE TWO IN THE GUISE OF A BRAHMANA?

"ARJUNA REPLIED:

O KARNA, I AM NEITHER.

I AM ONLY A BRAHMANA, A SUPREME WARRIOR.

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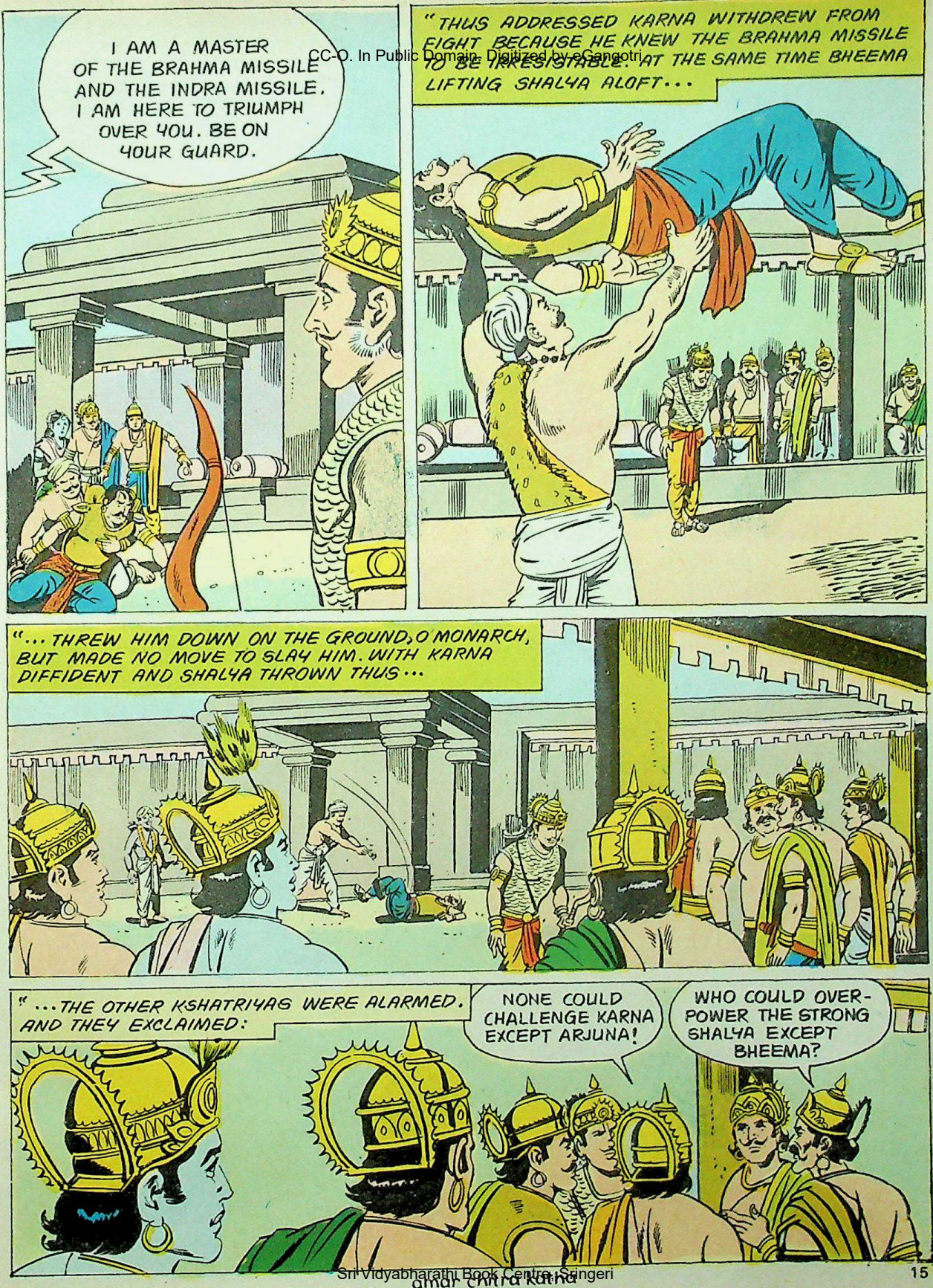

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THEREFORE LET US GIVE UP THIS BRAHMANA-INFESTED BATTLE. BESIDES BRAHMANAS, EVEN IF GUILTY, DESERVE PROTECTION.

LET US FIRST ASCERTAIN THEIR LINEAGE AND THEN WE SHALL FIGHT THEM FAIR.

"AT THAT JUNCTURE KNOWING THE TWO TO BE THE SONS OF KUNTI, KRISHNA RESTRAINED THE KINGS SAYING:

DRAUPADI HAS BEEN WON IN A PROPER MANNER.

"DEXTROUS WARRIORS THOUGH THEY WERE, THE KINGS WITHDREW FROM FURTHUR FIGHTING...

"...AND RETURNED TO THEIR DWELLINGS AMAZED AT THE TURN OF EVENTS.

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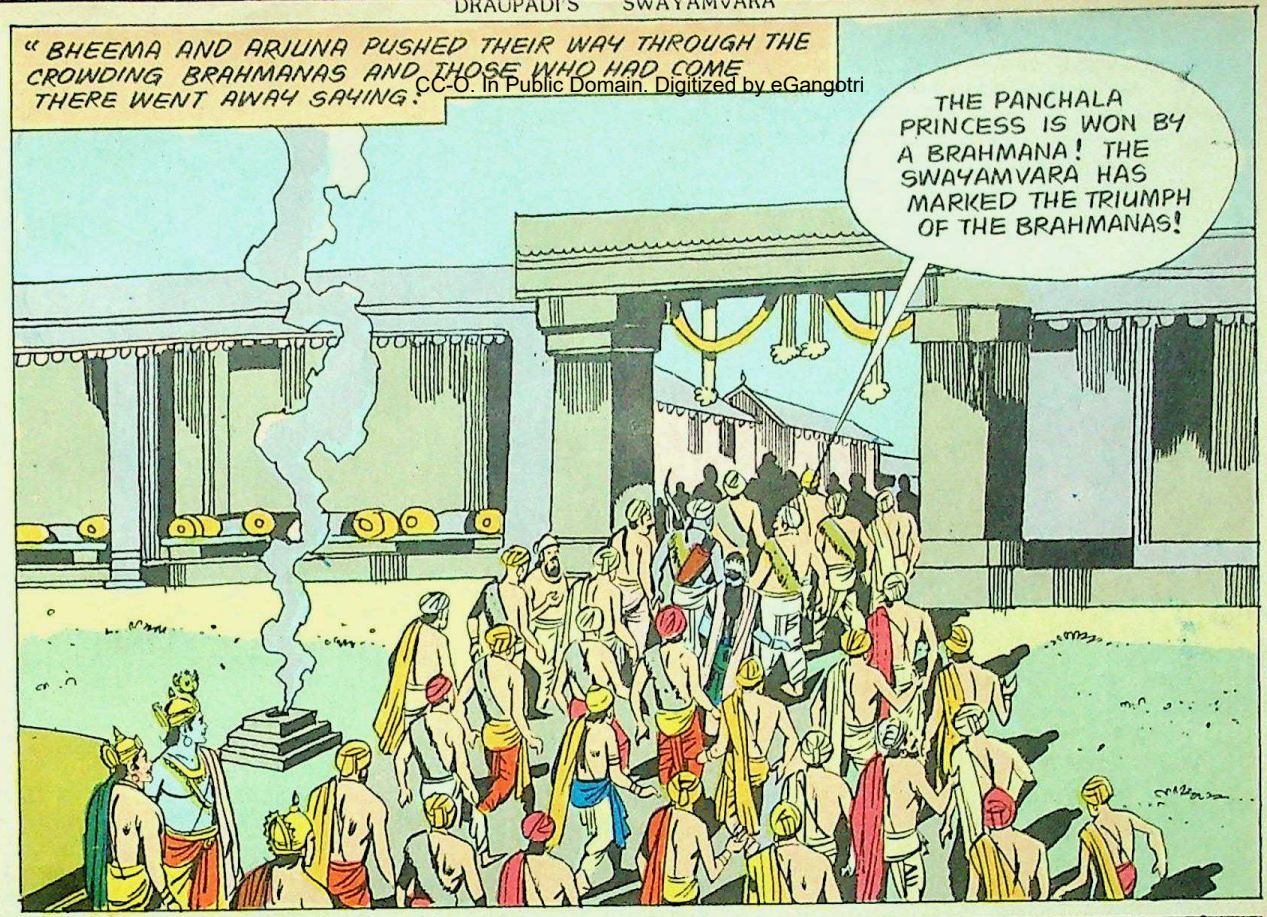

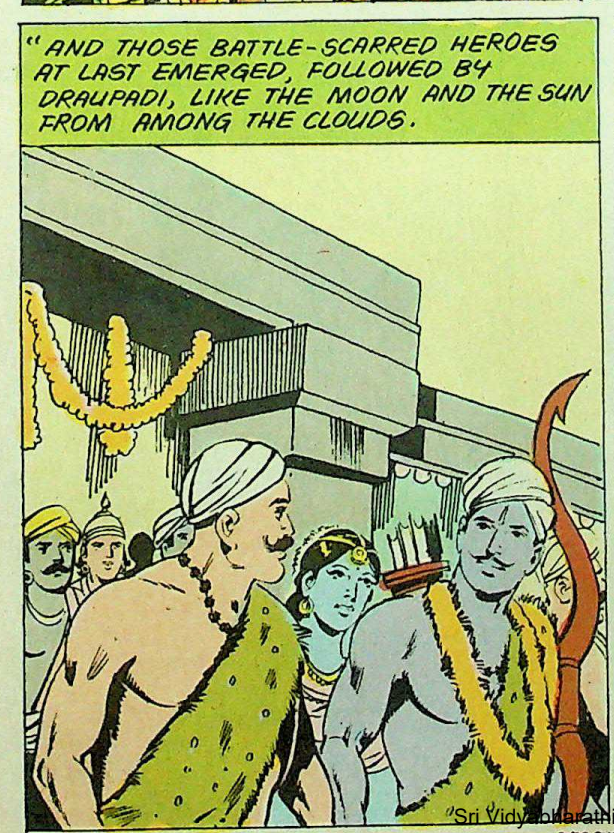

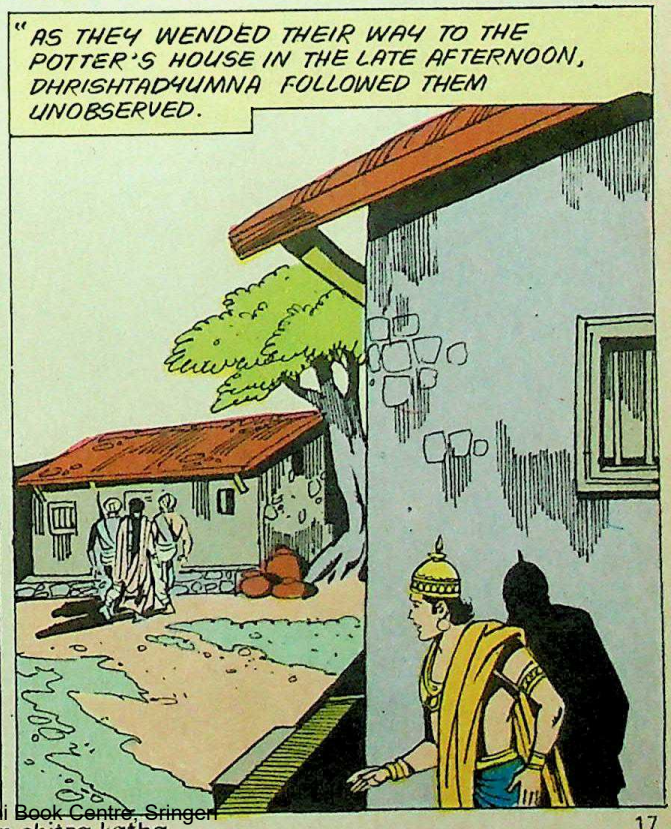

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"MEANWHILE KUNTI, WORRIED OVER THE DELAY IN THE RETURN OF HER SONS FROM THEIR ROUNDS, THOUGHT OF ALL THE ACCIDENTS THAT COULD HAVE BEFALLEN THEM. THE THOUGHT OF HER SONS BEING SLAIN BY THE SONS OF DHRITARASHTRA STRUCK HER.

"NEXT IT WAS THE THOUGHT OF A RAKSHASA GETTING AT HER SONS BY SORCERY.

"AND SHE ASKED HERSELF:

COULD IT BE THAT THE GREAT VYASA HIMSELF HAS BEEN PROVED WRONG?

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"AS THE HEROES JOYFULLY RUMINATED OVER THE WORDS OF THE ELDER BROTHER, KRISHNA AND BALARAMA CAME THERE.

"THEN KRISHNA, FOLLOWED BY BALARAMA, APPROACHED YUDHISHTHIRA AND BENT DOWN AND TOUCHED HIS FEET SAYING:

I AM KRISHNA.

"THEN THOSE TWO YADAVA HEROES TOUCHED THE FEET OF KUNTI, THEIR FATHER'S SISTER.

"AFTER THE PANDAVAS HAD EXCHANGED PLEASANTRIES WITH KRISHNA, YUDHISHTHIRA ASKED HIM:

HOW DID YOU TRACE US HERE? WE HAVE BEEN LIVING IN SECRECY.

"KRISHNA REPLIED WITH A SMILE:

FIRE THOUGH SHROUDED WILL STILL SHOW. WHO AMONG MEN BUT THE PANDAVAS COULD SHOW SUCH MIGHT!

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IT IS FORTUNATE THAT THE SONS OF DHRITARASHTRA AND THEIR COUNSELLORS FAILED IN THEIR PURPOSE. FARE YOU WELL.

AND LEST ANY OF THE KINGS SHOULD RECOGNIZE YOU IF THEY SEE US HERE, WE SHALL RETURN TO OUR CAMP.

"THEN TAKING LEAVE OF YUDHISHTHIRA, KRISHNA AND BALARAMA HASTILY WITHDREW FROM THE SCENE.

"AND BHEEMA AND ARJUNA AND THE TWINS WENT OUT AS USUAL COLLECTING ALMS...

"...AND RETURNING AT DUSK GAVE ALL THAT THEY HAD COLLECTED TO YUDHISHTHIRA.

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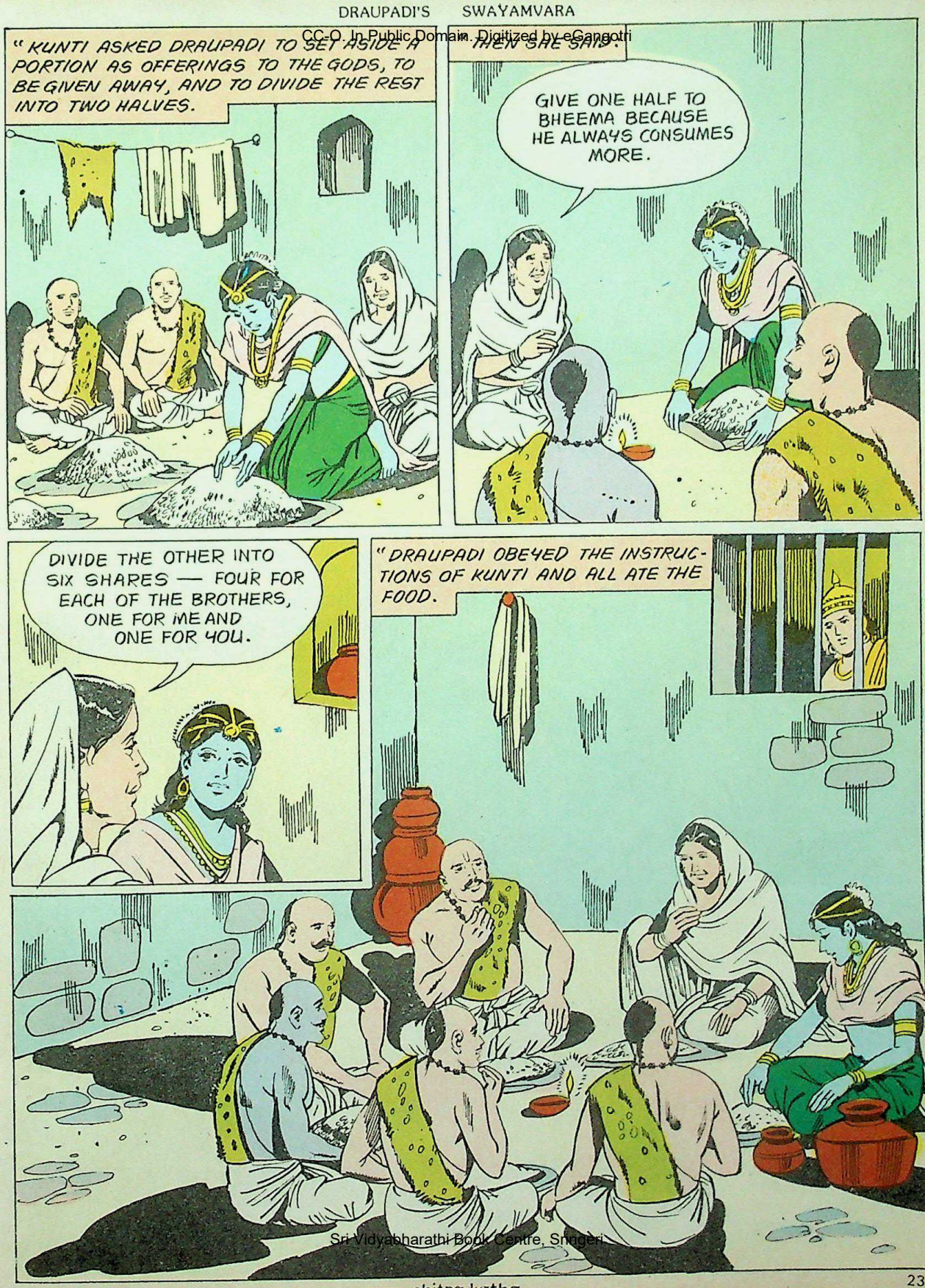

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"THEN SAHADEVA MADE A BED OF KUSHA GRASS AND THE VALIANT ONES SPREADING THEIR DEERSKINS ON IT...

"...LAID THEMSELVES DOWN TO SLEEP WITH KUNTI AT THEIR HEADS AND DRAUPADI AT THEIR FEET.

"THEN THESE BRAVE MEN STARTED TALKING AMONG THEMSELVES.

"AND THEY, IN THEIR MARTIAL AUTHORITY, TALKED OF SWORDS, MACES, BATTLE-AXES, ELEPHANTS, CHARIOTS AND CELESTIAL MISSILES.

"THE SON OF THE PANCHALA KING OVERHEARD ALL THAT THEY HAD SAID, AND HASTENED ...

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"... TO REPORT IT TO DRUPADA. DRUPADA ASKED DHRISHTADYUMNA:

O WHERE IS KRISHNAA? WHO HAS LED HER AWAY? GIVE ME THE DETAILS OF THE ONE WHO HAS OBTAINED MY DAUGHTER.

"AND DHRISHTADYUMNA RECOUNTED ALL THAT HE HAD WITNESSED. THEN HE SAID:

THE TALK OF THOSE VALIANT ONES UNDOUBTEDLY PROVED THEM TO BE KSHATRIYAS OF A HIGH ORDER. OUR HOPES SEEM FULFILLED. HAD WE NOT HEARD OF THE ESCAPE OF THE PANDAVAS FROM THE BURNING HOUSE OF LACQUER?

"DRUPADA EXCLAIMED:

ARE THE SONS OF PANDU ALIVE? WAS IT ARJUNA WHO LIFTED THE BOW AND BROUGHT DOWN THE TARGET?

"DHRISHTADYUMNA REPLIED:

ALL THAT HAS BEEN SEEN AND HEARD MAKE THEM OUT TO BE THE PANDAVAS WANDERING IN DISGUISE.

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"THEN, KEEN ON TESTING THE IDENTITY OF THE VALIANT MEN, DRUPADA KEPT READY A LARGE COLLECTION OF FRUITS, GARLANDS, CARPETS; AND SEEDS, ROPES AND FARMING IMPLEMENTS; AND DIVERSE MARTIAL EQUIPMENT AND CHARIOTS AND STEEDS.

"AND A MESSENGER CAME TO YUDHISHTHIRA IN HASTE AND SAID:

THE PANCHALA KING HAS PREPARED A FEAST FOR THE BRIDEGROOM AND HIS KINSFOLK. THESE ROYAL CHARIOTS WILL TAKE YOU TO THE KING'S RESIDENCE WHERE THE WEDDING WILL BE PERFORMED.

"THE PANDAVAS AND KUNTI AND DRAUPADI PROCEEDED TO DRUPADA'S PALACE IN THESE MAGNIFICENT CHARIOTS.

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"BEHOLDING, O MONARCH, THOSE HEROES STRIDING IN, THEIR TORSOS CLAD IN DEER-SKIN, THE KING AND HIS SON AND THEIR RETINUE BECAME EXCEEDINGLY GLAD.

"THEN THOSE VALIANT ONES WENT UP TO THEIR SEATS AND OCCUPIED THEM WITHOUT DIFFIDENCE OR SURPRISE WHILE KUNTI AND DRAUPADI WENT INTO THE INNER APPARTMENTS.

"AND WELL-DRESSED ATTENDANTS AND SERVANTS BROUGHT EXCELLENT FOOD IN PLATES OF GOLD AND SILVER WHICH THE HEROES ENJOYED TO THE FULL AND FELT PLEASED.

"THEN THE PANDAVAS WENT TO THE SPOT WHERE THE MARTIAL EQUIPMENT WAS DISPLAYED, PAYING LITTLE HEED TO THE REST OF THE ARTICLES. DRUPADA, HIS SON AND THE COUNSELLORS OBSERVED ALL THIS AND DECIDED THAT THESE WERE THE PANDAVAS.

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OVERCOME BY THE UTMOST JOY, DRUPADA COULD HARDLY SPEAK AND THEN, CONTROLLING HIS EMOTIONS, HE ASKED THE PANDAVAS HOW THEY ESCAPED FROM VARANAVATA.

WHEN HE HEARD ALL THE DETAILS, HE CENSURED DHRITARASHTRA AND ASSURED YUDHISHTHIRA THAT THIS KINGDOM WOULD BE RESTORED TO HIM.

"THEN HE SAID TO YUDHISHTHIRA:

LET ARJUNA WED MY DAUGHTER ACCORDING TO RITES ON THIS AUSPICIOUS DAY.

"YUDHISHTHIRA REPLIED:

O KING, I SHALL ALSO HAVE TO WED.

"DRUPADA SAID:

THEN TAKE THE HAND OF MY DAUGHTER YOURSELF ACCORDING TO RITES OR GIVE HER IN MARRIAGE TO THE BROTHER YOU CHOOSE.

"YUDHISHTHIRA SAID:

YOUR DAUGHTER, O KING, SHALL BE WIFE TO US ALL. THIS IS ALREADY COMMANDED BY MY MOTHER AND IT IS A RULE WITH US THAT WE SHARE EQUALLY WHAT WE OBTAIN.

"DRUPADA SAID:

MANY HUSBANDS TO ONE WOMAN HAS NEVER BEEN HEARD OF. YOU KNOW THE WAYS OF VIRTUE. HOW CAN YOU DEVIATE THUS AND GO AGAINST THE CANNONS OF VIRTUE AND PRACTICE?

"YUDHISHTHIRA REPLIED:

VIRTUE IS COMPLEX. I UTTER NO LIE NOR DO I THINK EVIL. THIS IS WHAT MY MOTHER HAS ORDERED AND I APPROVE IT.

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"JUST THEN MY GURU VYASA ARRIVED THERE. AND, ACCEPTING THE RESPECTFUL SALUTATIONS OF ALL, SAT DOWN. THEN DRUPADA ASKED HIM:

O GREAT SAGE, HOW CAN ONE WOMAN BE THE VIRTUOUS WIFE OF MANY MEN WITHOUT BEING DEFILED?

AND OBSERVED:

THIS PRACTICE HAS BECOME OBSOLETE BUT THE VIRTUOUS KRISHNAA...

... HAS BEEN ORDAINED BY SHIVA TO BECOME THE WIFE OF FIVE HUSBANDS. NOW, YOU DO AS YOU WISH.

"THEN DRUPADA SAID:

WHEN IT IS THE WILL OF SHIVA— BE IT RIGHT OR WRONG— NO BLAME WILL COME TO ME.

AS DESTINED, LET THESE HEROES WED KRISHNAA ACCORDING TO THE RITES.

"THEN MY GURU SAID TO YUDHISHTHIRA:

O SON OF PANDU, ON THIS AUSPICIOUS DAY, YOU TAKE THE HAND OF KRISHNAA FIRST.

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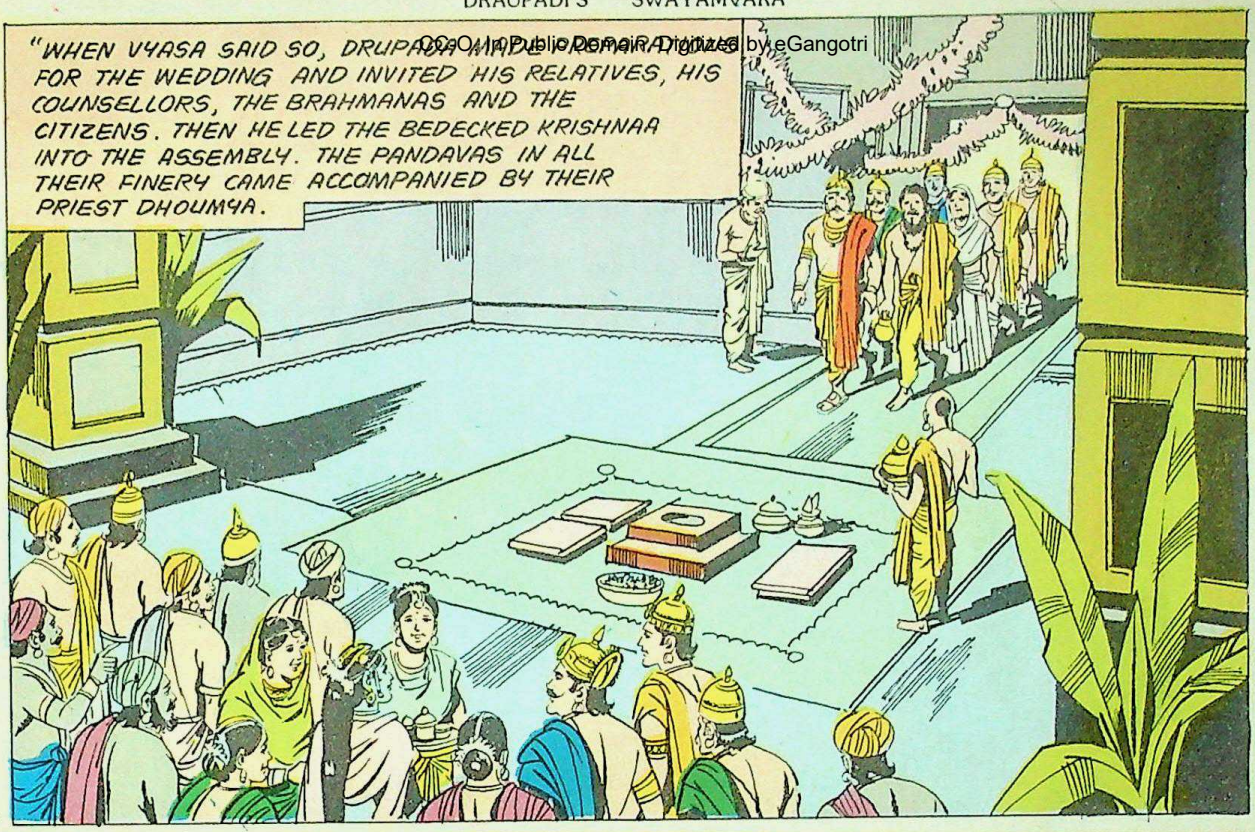

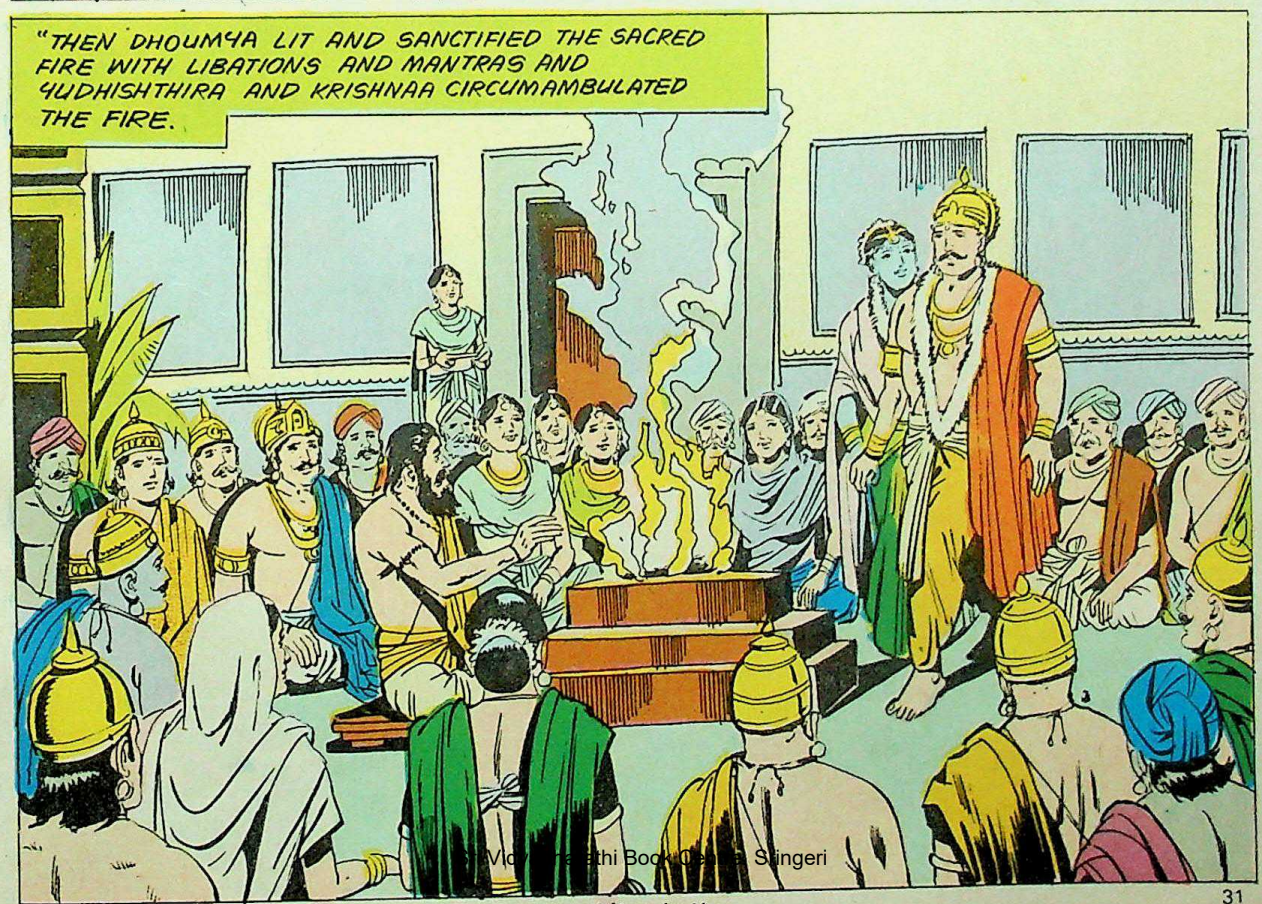

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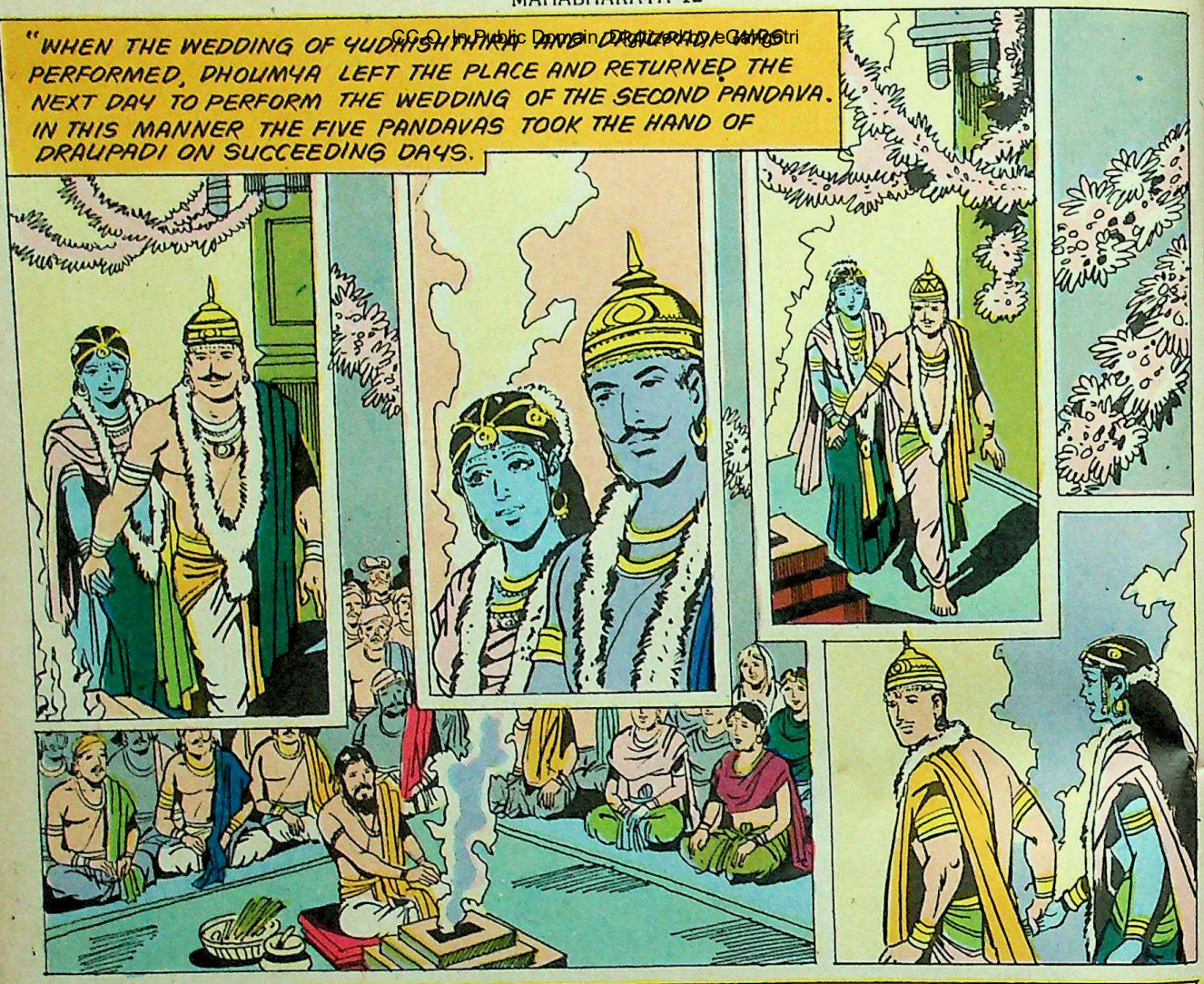
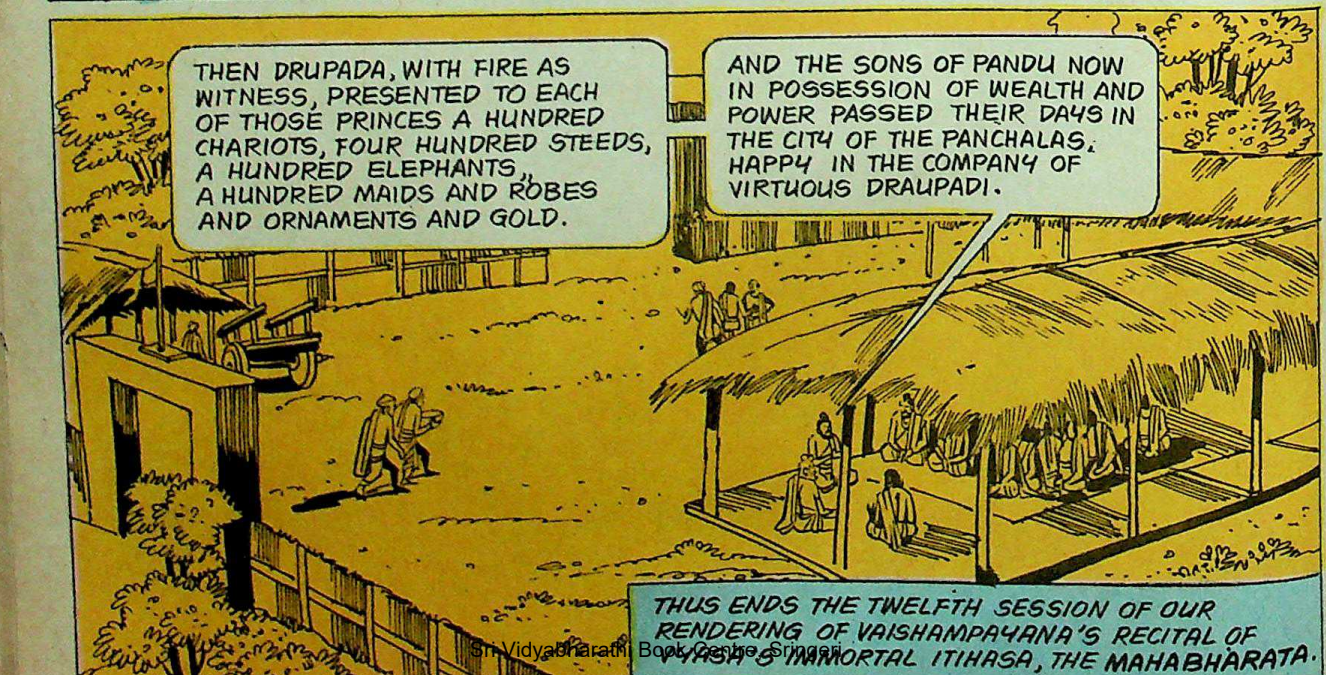
"WHEN THE WEDDING OF YUDHISHTHIRA AND DRAUPADI WAS PERFORMED, DHOUMYA LEFT THE PLACE AND RETURNED THE NEXT DAY TO PERFORM THE WEDDING OF THE SECOND PANDAVA. IN THIS MANNER THE FIVE PANDAVAS TOOK THE HAND OF DRAUPADI ON SUCCEEDING DAYS.





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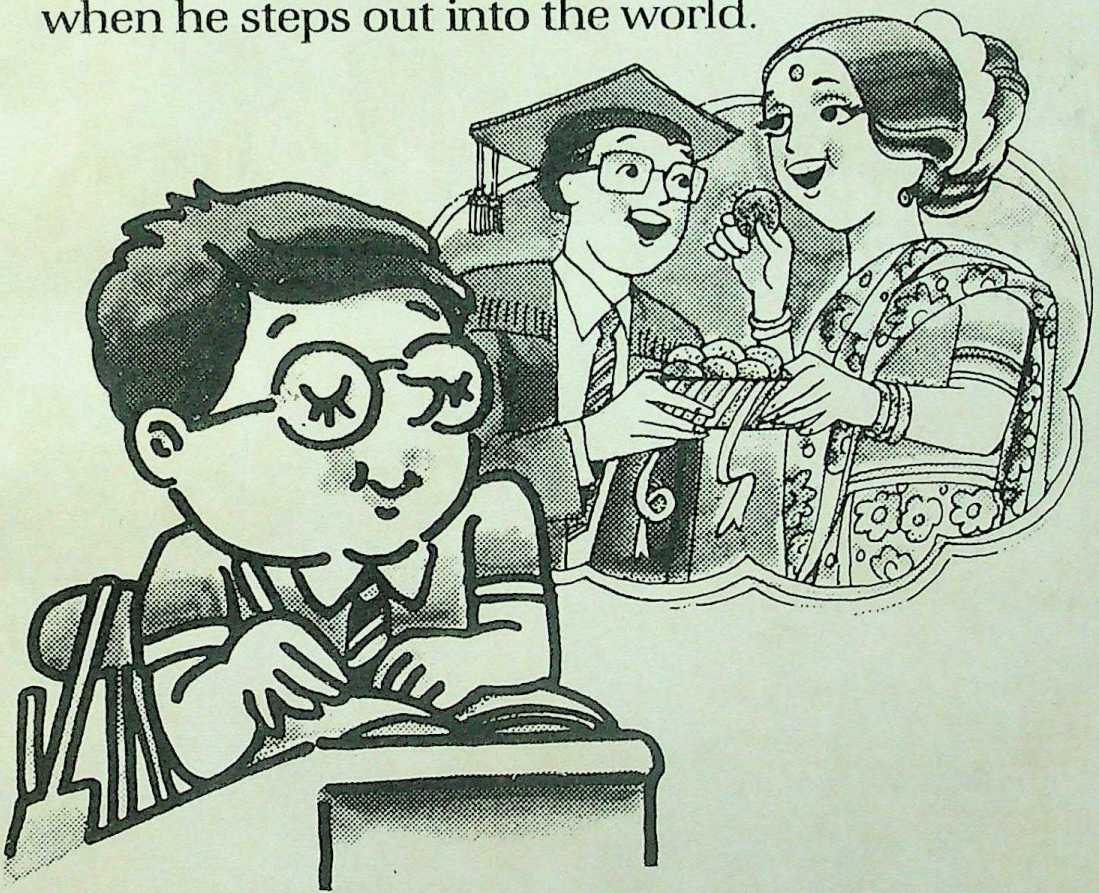

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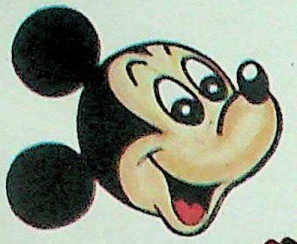

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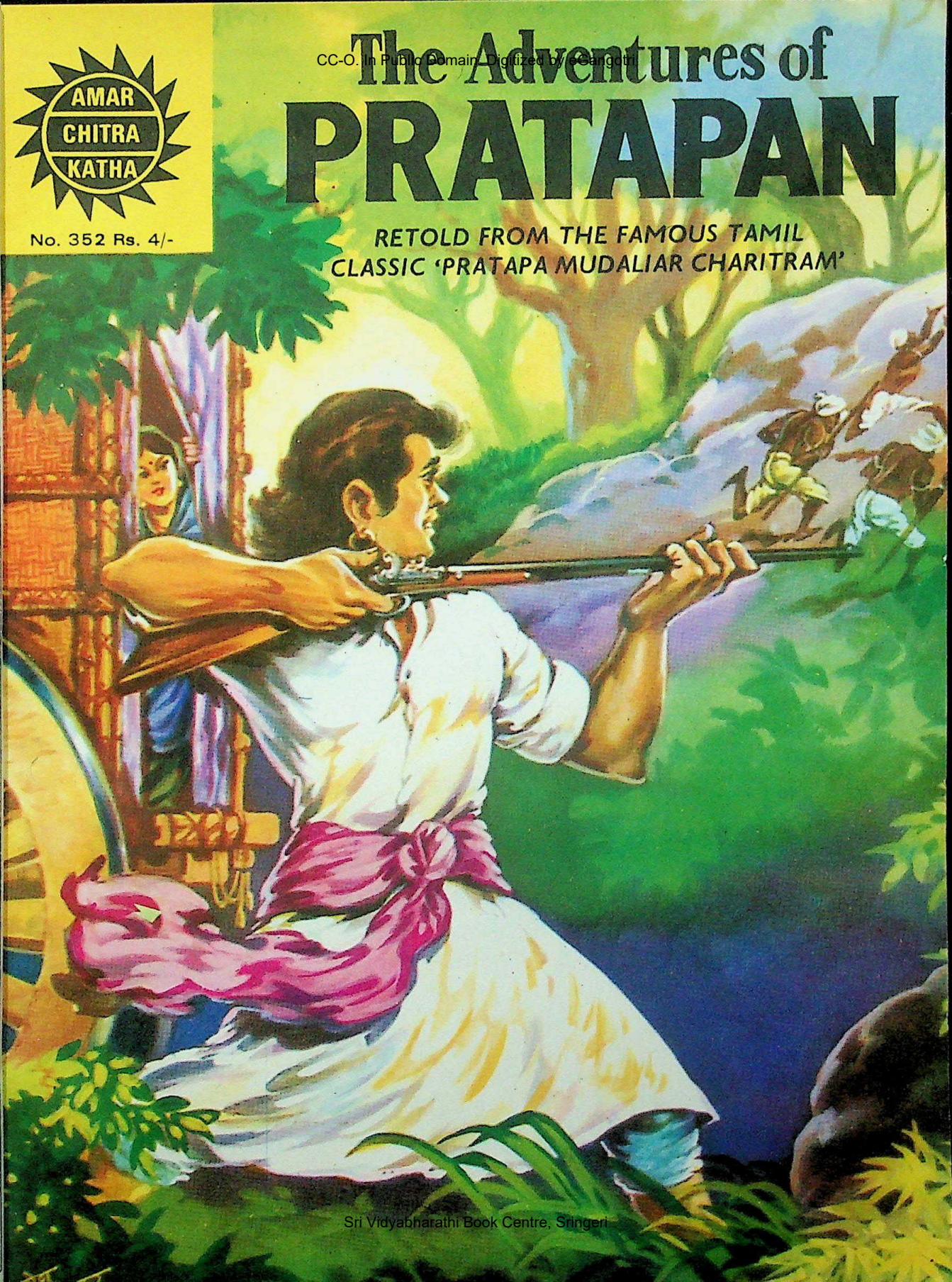

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Amar Chitra Katha
No. 352 March 1, 1986

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Published by:
H.G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026
and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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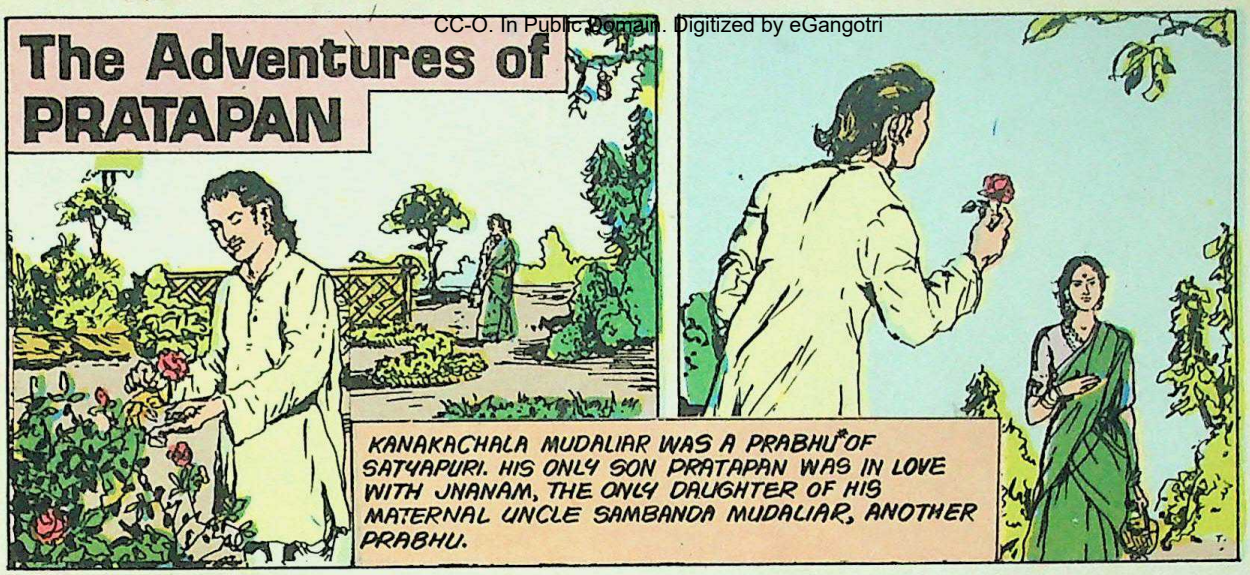

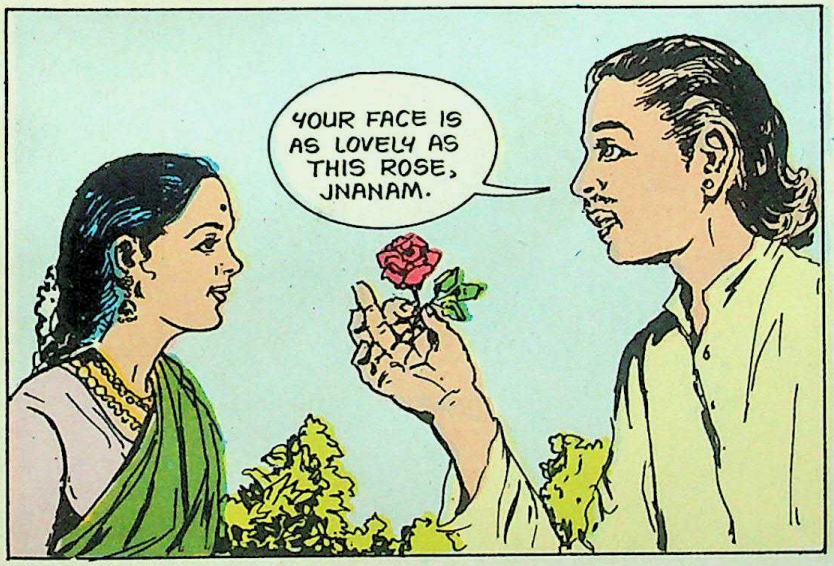

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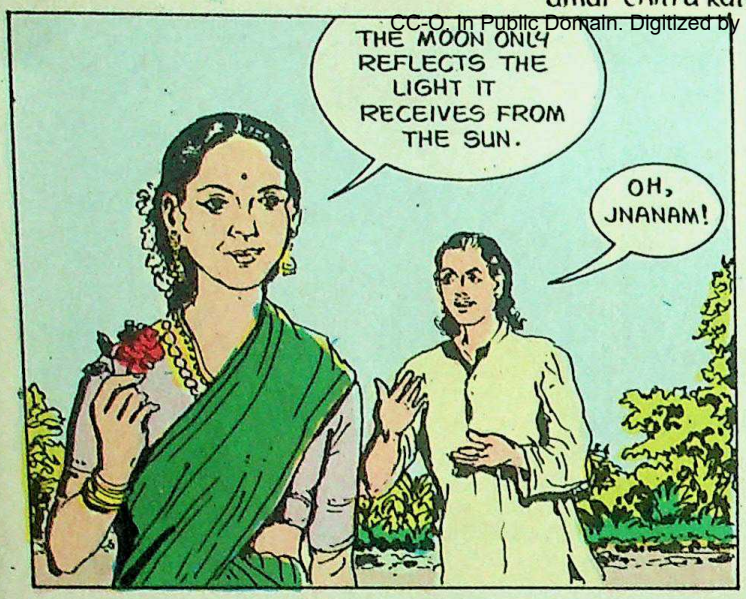

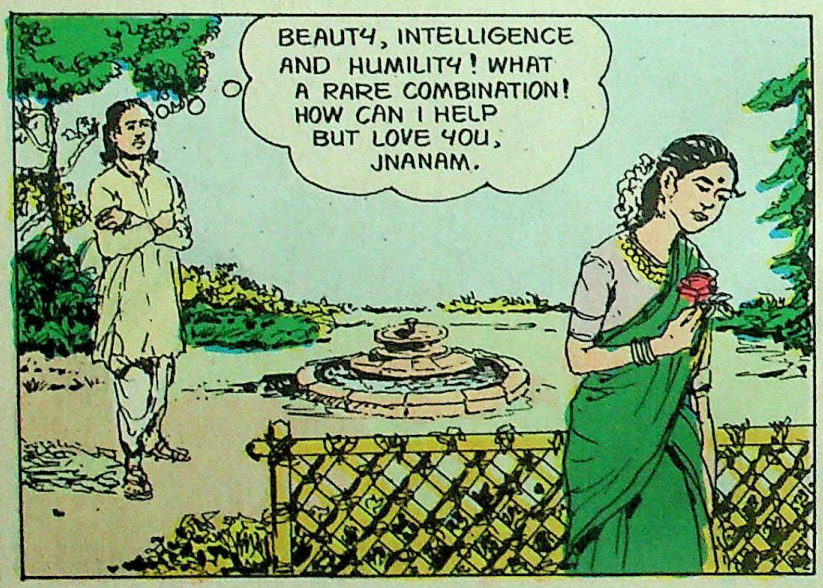

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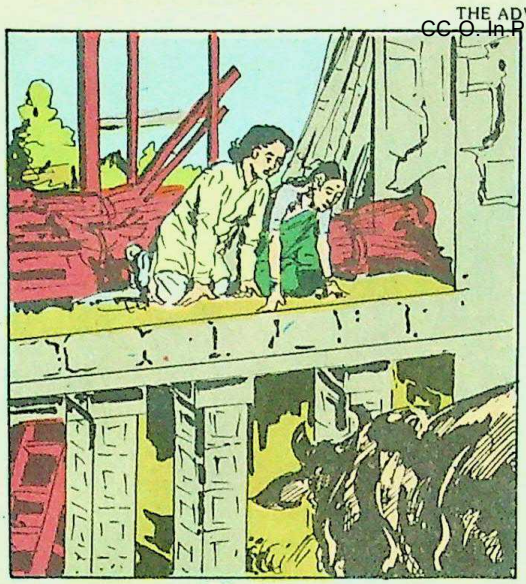
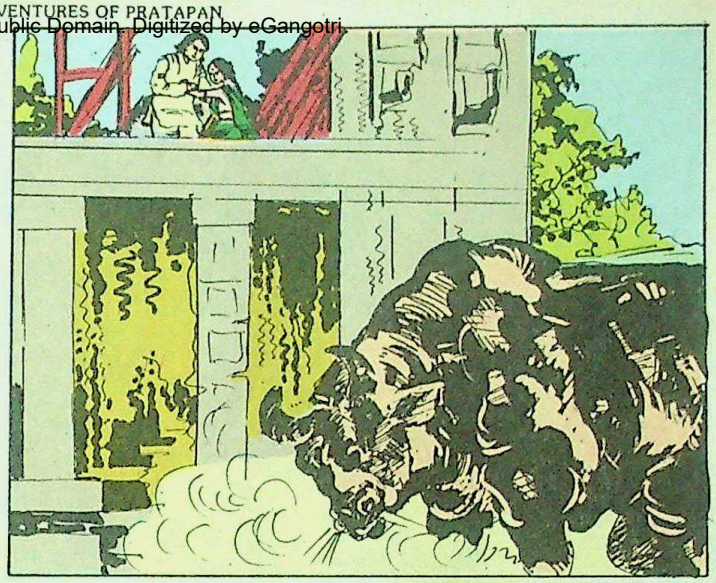
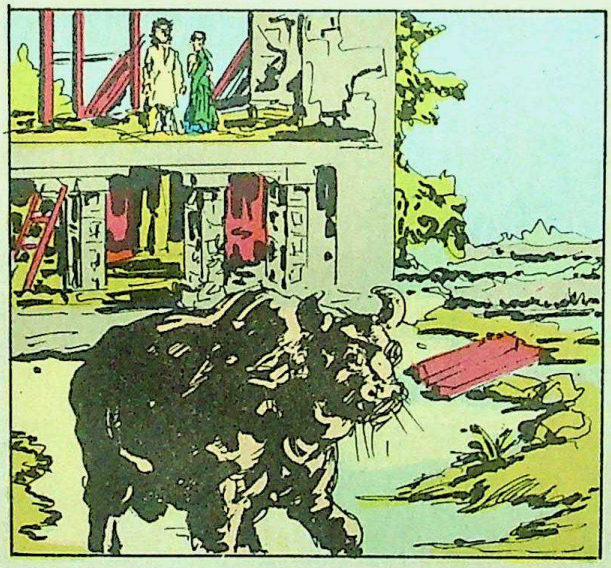
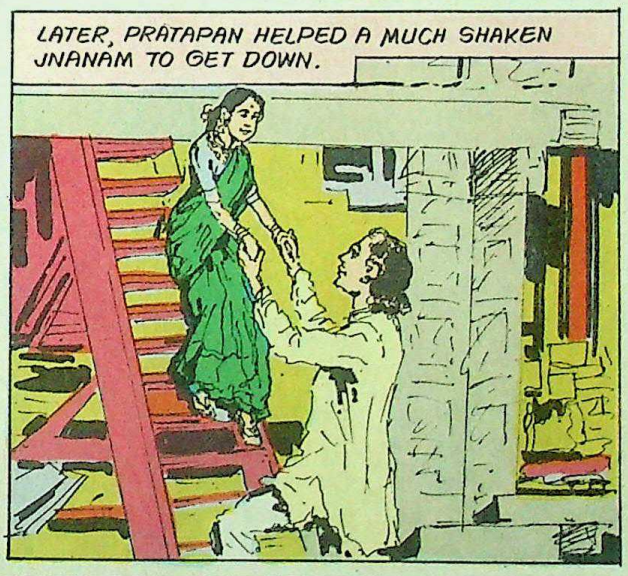






LATER, PRATAPAN HELPED A MUCH SHAKEN JNANAM TO GET DOWN.



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PRATAPAN WAS HEARTBROKEN. FOR A WHILE HE WONDERED WHAT HE SHOULD DO. AT LAST HE DECIDED THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY OUT FOR THEM.

THE TWO OF US WILL RUN AWAY FROM HOME AND GET MARRIED.

HE WROTE A LETTER TO JNANAM ABOUT IT.

I AM SURE SHE WILL AGREE.

BUT JNANAM HAD HER OWN VIEWS ON THE MATTER.

WHAT YOU SUGGEST GOES AGAINST MY GRAIN. I WILL NOT MARRY ANYONE WITHOUT MY PARENTS' CONSENT.

IF HOWEVER OUR PARENTS DO NOT RESPECT OUR WISHES, WE ARE FREE TO REMAIN UNMARRIED.

SO JNANAM WON'T MARRY ANYONE ELSE. BUT WILL SHE EVER BE ALLOWED TO MARRY ME?

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A FEW MONTHS AFTER PRATAPAN ASKED HIMSELF THAT QUESTION, SAMBANDA MUDALIAR LEFT SATYAPURI WITH HIS FAMILY ON A VISIT TO HIS VILLAGE.

A FEW WEEKS LATER-

AH, JNANAM IS BACK! BUT TO WHAT PURPOSE? THAT SHE IS SO NEAR AND YET SO FAR ONLY SHARPENS MY PAIN.

WHERE IS HER PALANQUIN?

WHERE IS JNANAM? WHERE IS HER PALANQUIN?

WHAT IS THE MATTER?

SIR, EVERYBODY HAS COME BACK... EXCEPT JNANAM. HER PALANQUIN IS NOT TO BE SEEN.

JNANAM... MISSING... OH, GOD!

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KANAKACHALAM READILY AGREED.

SAMBANDAM, YOU HAVE ONLY ONE DAUGHTER, AND I ONLY ONE SON.

LET THE COUPLE STAY AT YOUR HOUSE FOR SIX MONTHS AND AT MINE FOR SIX.

YOU ARE KIND.

AND SO PRATAPAN AND JNANAM WERE MARRIED.

ONE OF THE GUESTS AT THE WEDDING WAS PRATAPAN'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND, KANAKASABHAI, THE SON OF DEVARAJA PILLAI OF ADIYOOR.

KANAKAN, I AM SO HAPPY, YOU COULD COME.

NOW YOU WILL SOON HAVE TO VISIT ADIYOOR TO ATTEND YOUR FRIEND'S WEDDING.

WE WILL CERTAINLY COME.

KANAKAN AND DEVARAJAN RETURNED TO ADIYOOR.

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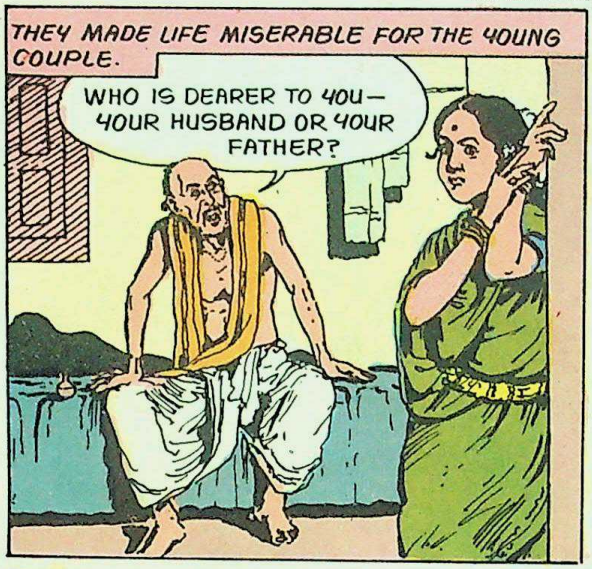

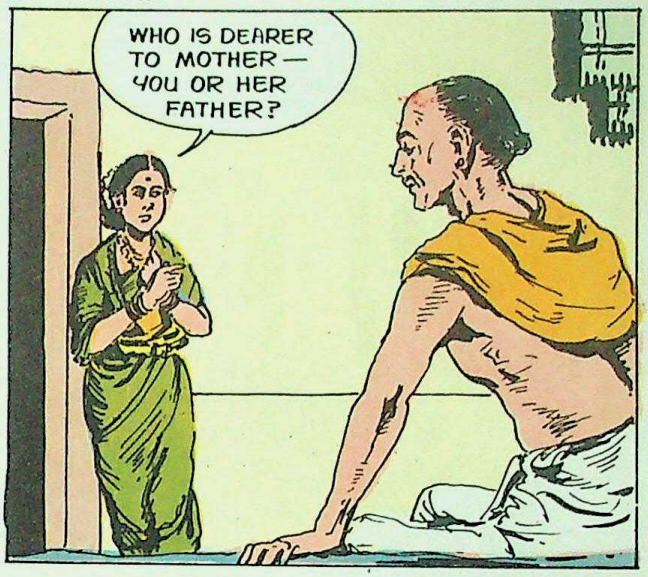

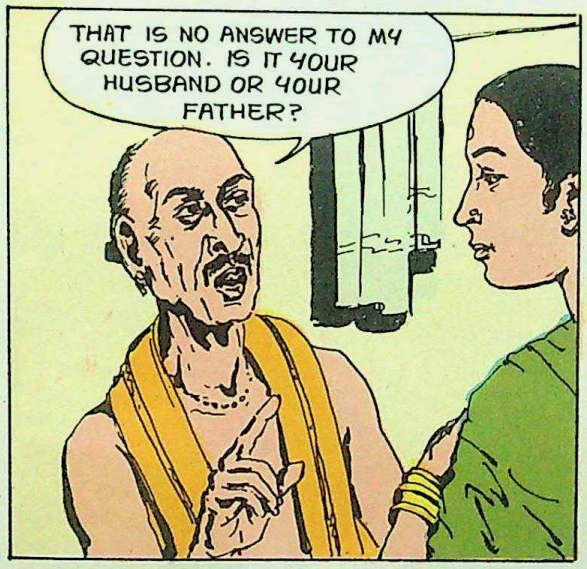

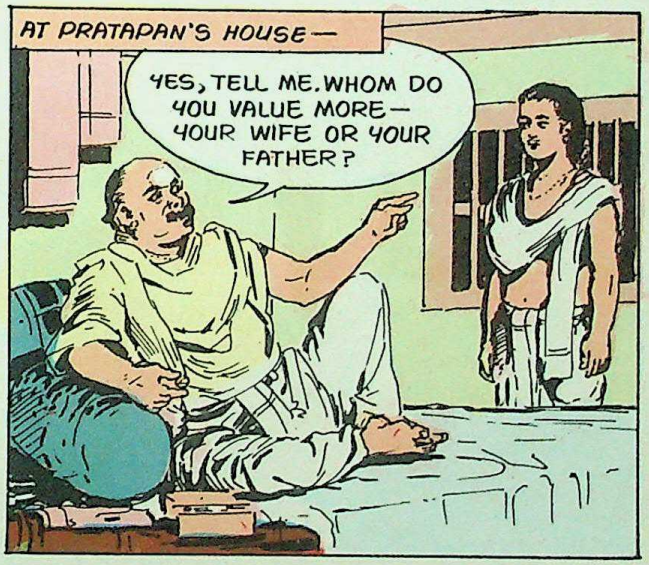

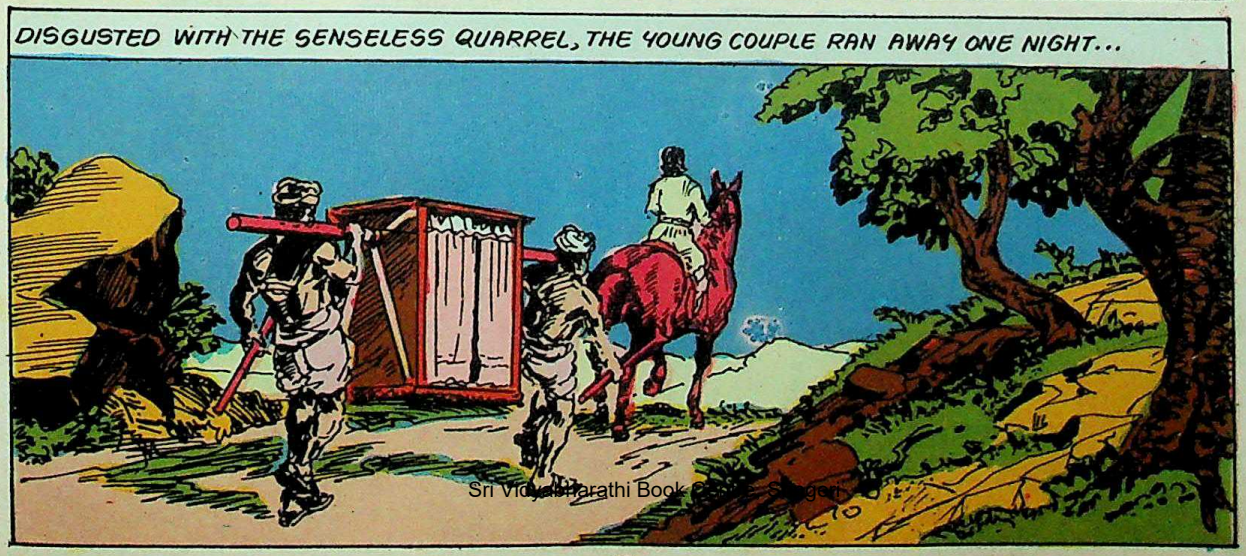

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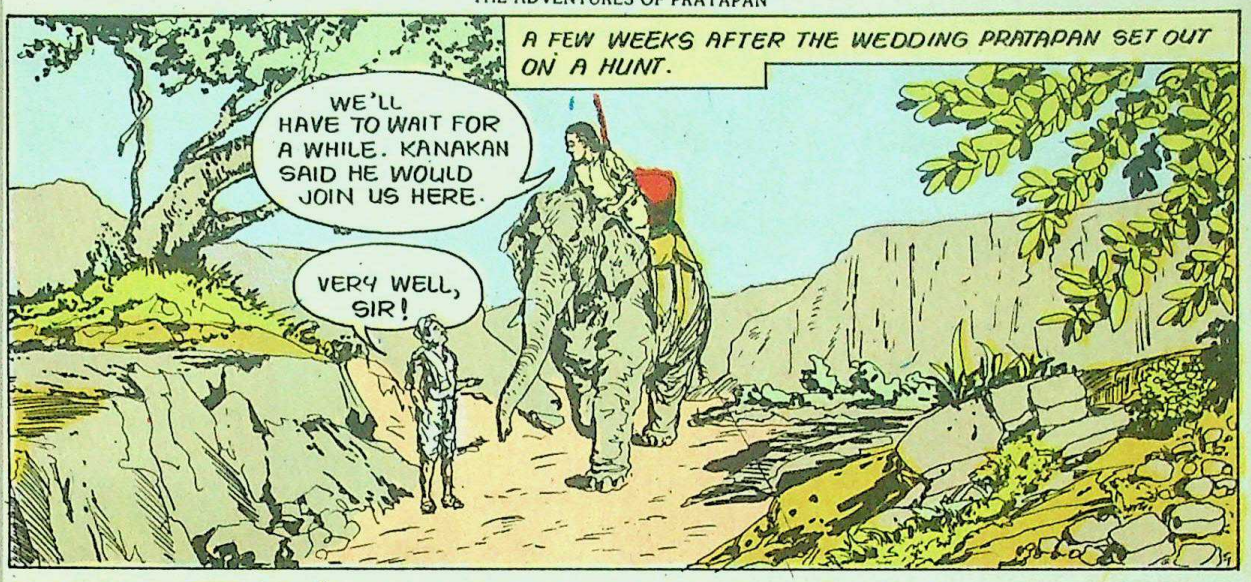

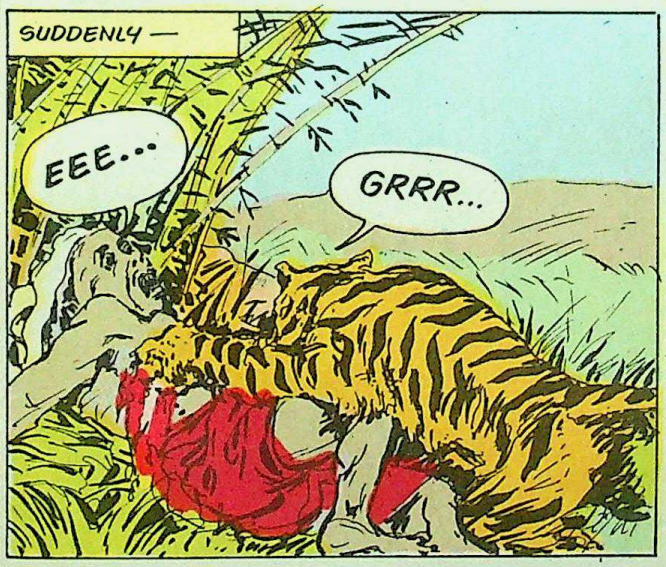

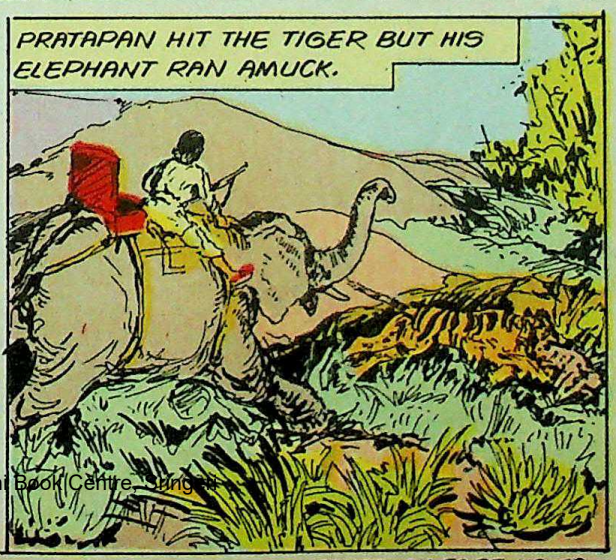

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"After over a 100 tests, how could a white shoe cleaner possibly matter to me?

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You'd be surprised!"

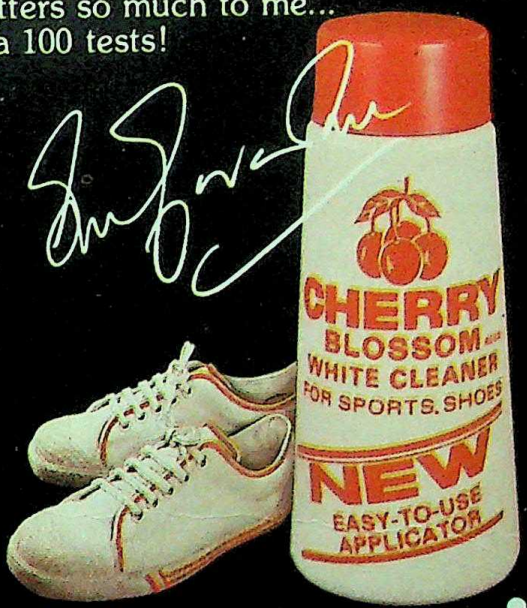
"When I was getting ready to play my first test, someone I admired said to me, 'Get careless about your kit and turnout and you'll soon get careless about the game as well!'

It made a lot of sense to me then. And it still does today.

Sure, you want to put all your time and energy into getting better and better at the game. But don't forget, you're a sportsman first. And what kind of sportsman would you be if you couldn't spare a bit of time to look like one?

Take it from me, when you come perfectly dressed, you feel good, you feel like a sportsman—you feel like a winner!

Is it a wonder then, that a white shoe cleaner matters so much to me... even after a 100 tests!



Be a sportsman... down to your feet!"

CHERRY WHITE CLEANER

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1. Place of Publication	IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd. Mahalaxmi Chambers, 22, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Bombay 400 026
2. Periodicity of Publication	Fortnightly
3. Printer's Name	Hargobind G. Mirchandani
Nationality	Indian
Address	102, 'H' Dalamal Park, 223, Cuffe Parade, Bombay 400 005
4. Publisher's Name	Hargobind G. Mirchandani
Nationality	Indian
Address	102, 'H' Dalamal Park, 223, Cuffe Parade, Bombay 400 005
5. Editor's Name	Anant Pai
Nationality	Indian
Address	IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd. Mahalaxmi Chambers 22, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Bombay 400 026
6. Name and Address of individuals who own the paper	1. Ghanshyam Lilaram Mirchandani 7, Palm Court 152, Maharshi Karve Marg, Bombay 400 020 2. Deepak Ghanshyam Mirchandani 7, Palm Court 152, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 400 020 3. Jasoti G. Mirchandani 7, Palm Court 152, Maharshi Karve Marg, Bombay 400 020 4. Padmini V. Vir, 5-4-674, Kattal Mandi, Hyderabad 500 001 5. IBH Magazines Publication Pvt. Ltd. 249, Dr. D.N. Road, Bombay 400 001

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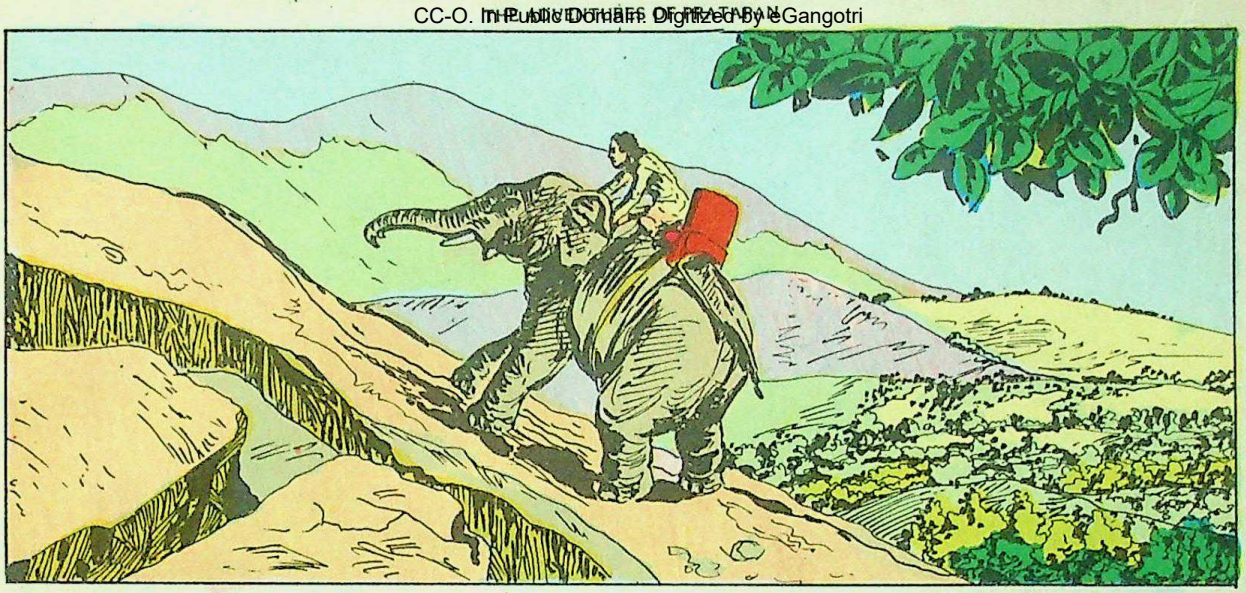

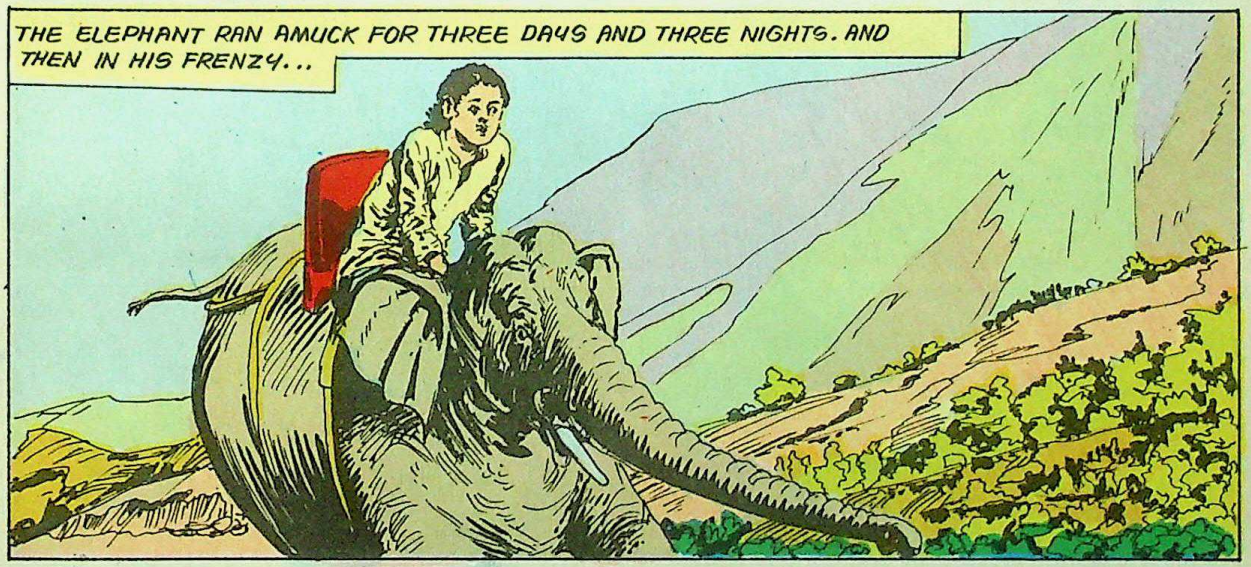

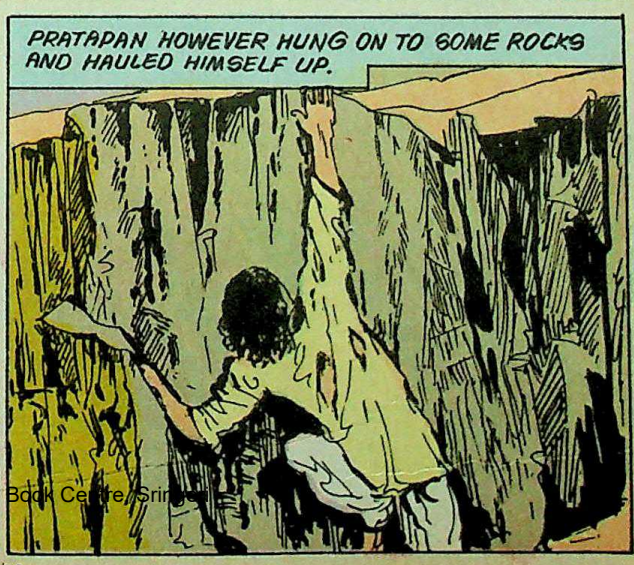

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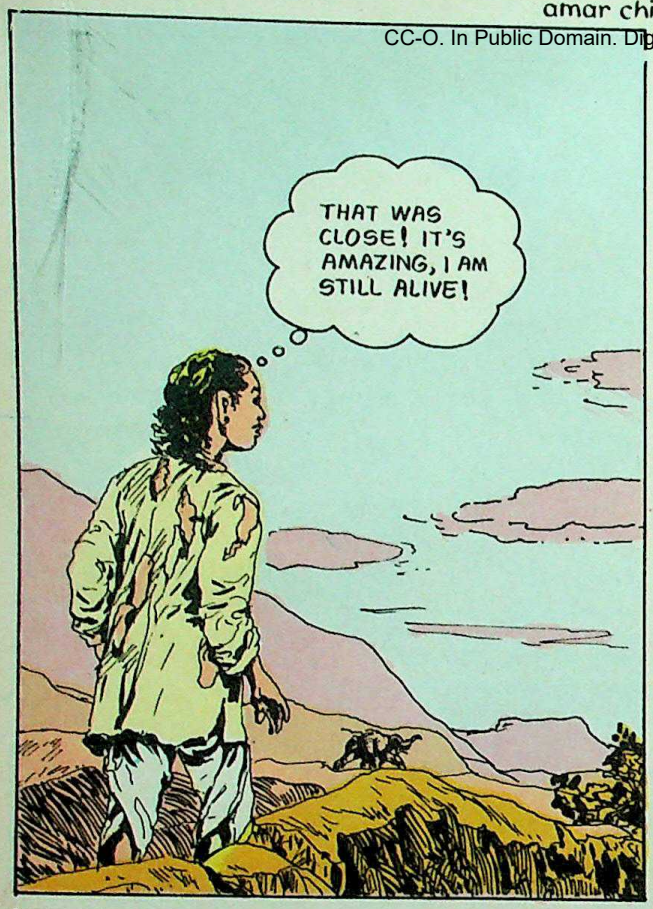

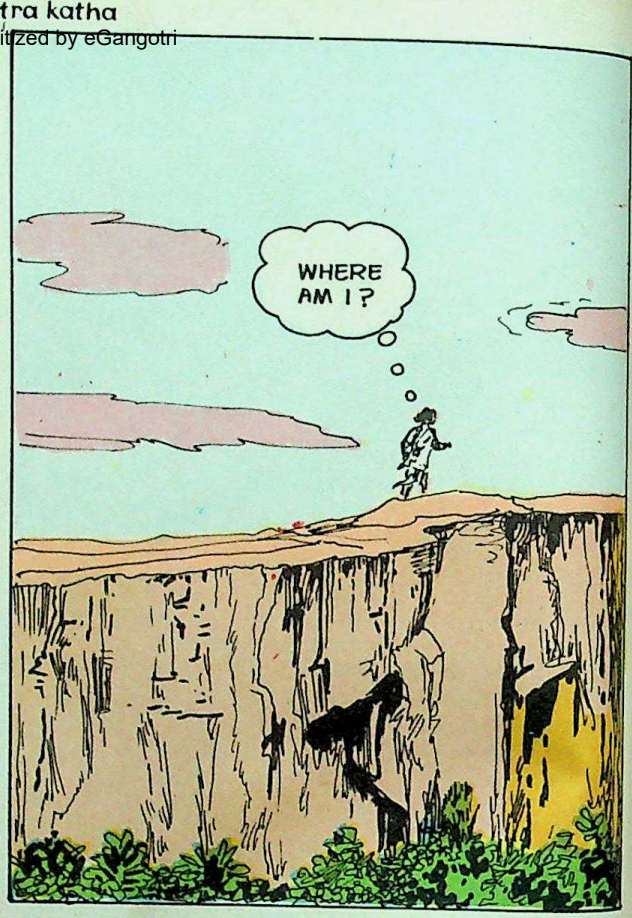

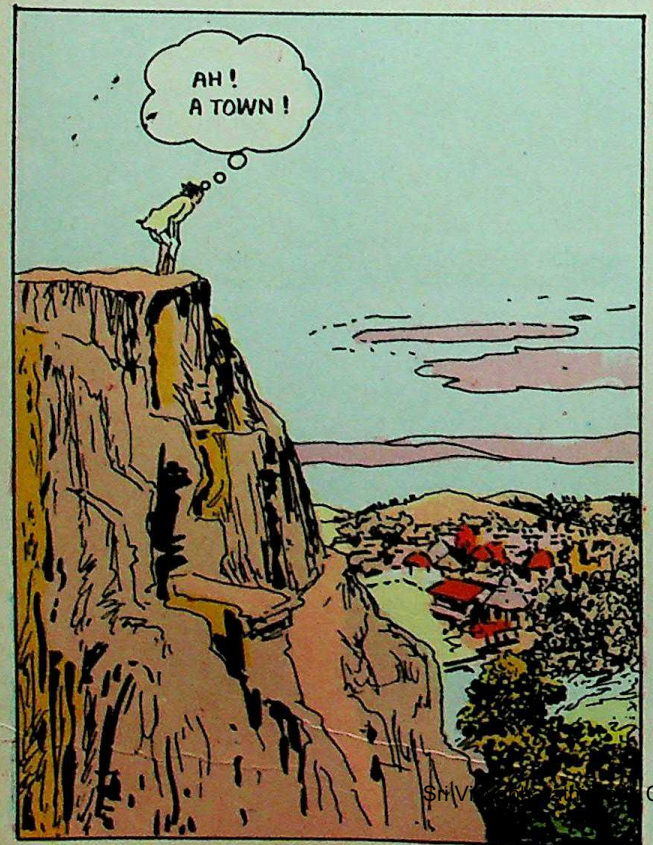

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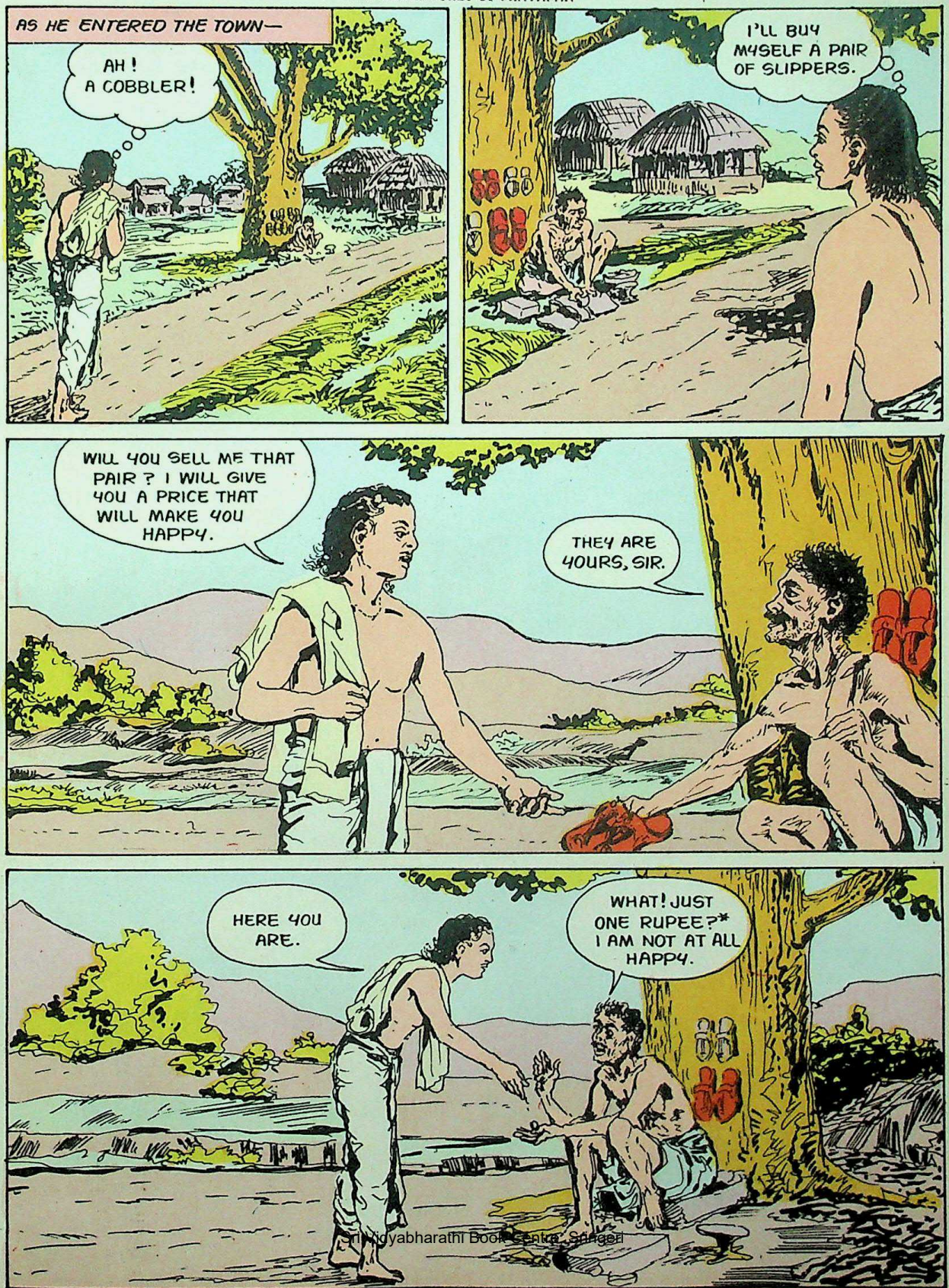

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* A RUPEE IN THOSE DAYS COULD BUY SEVERAL PAIRS OF SLIPPERS.

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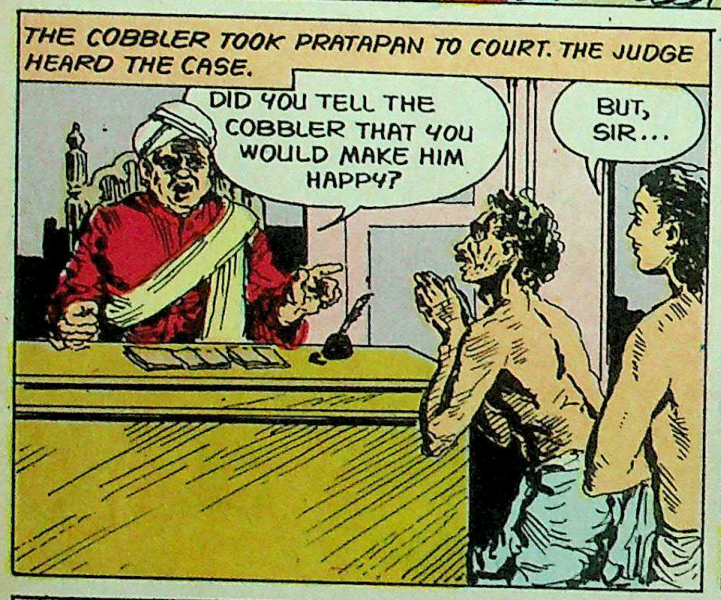

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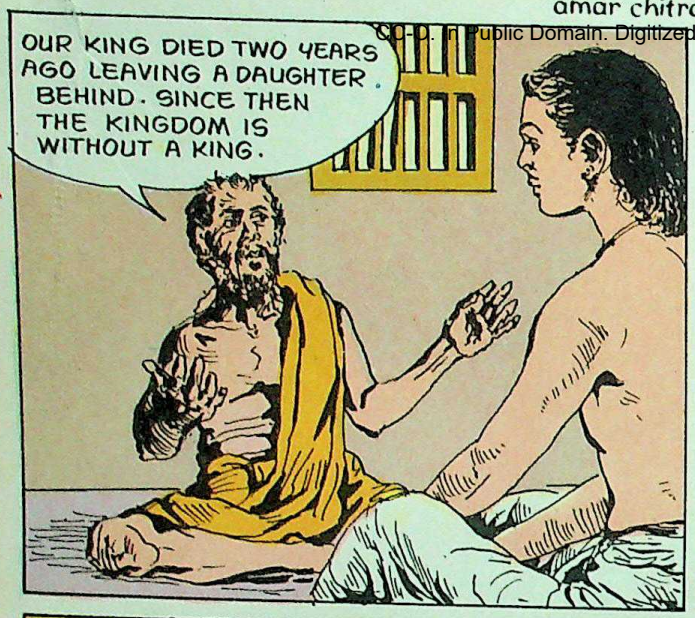
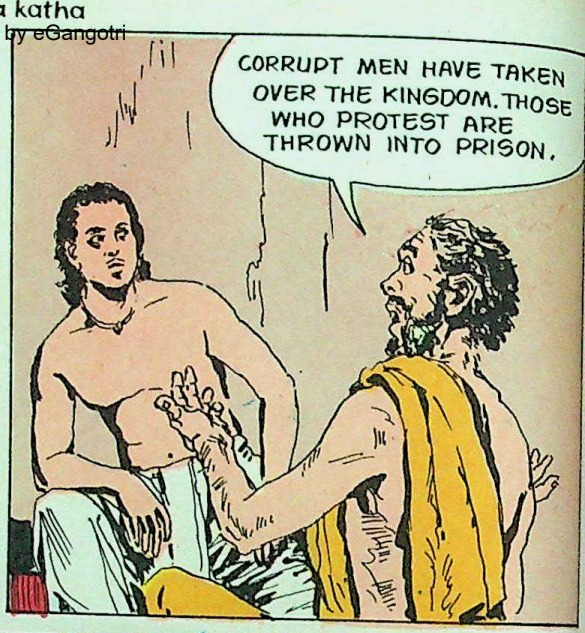
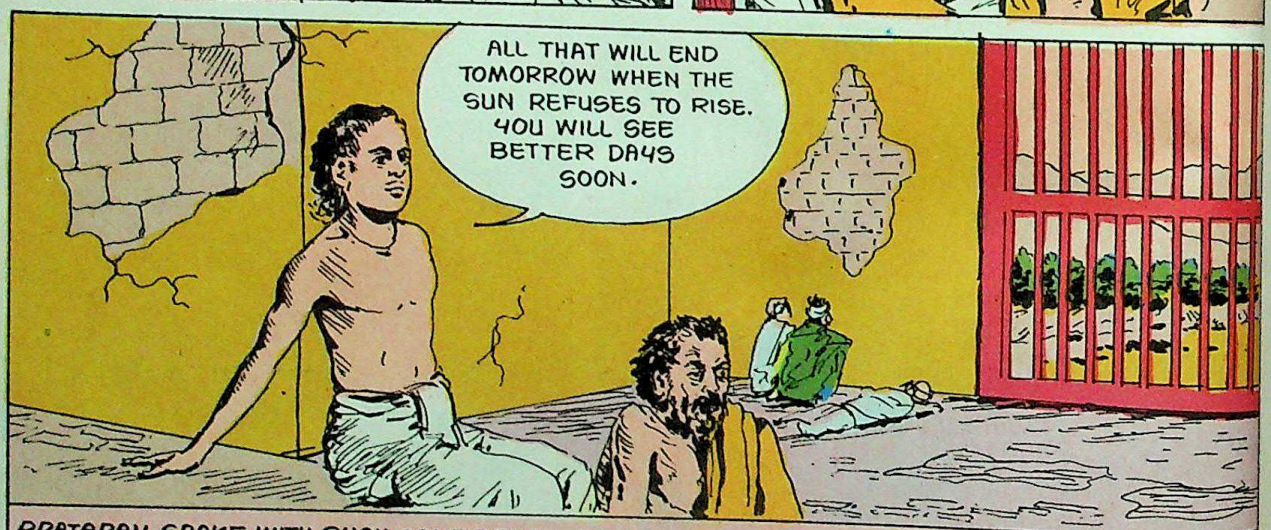
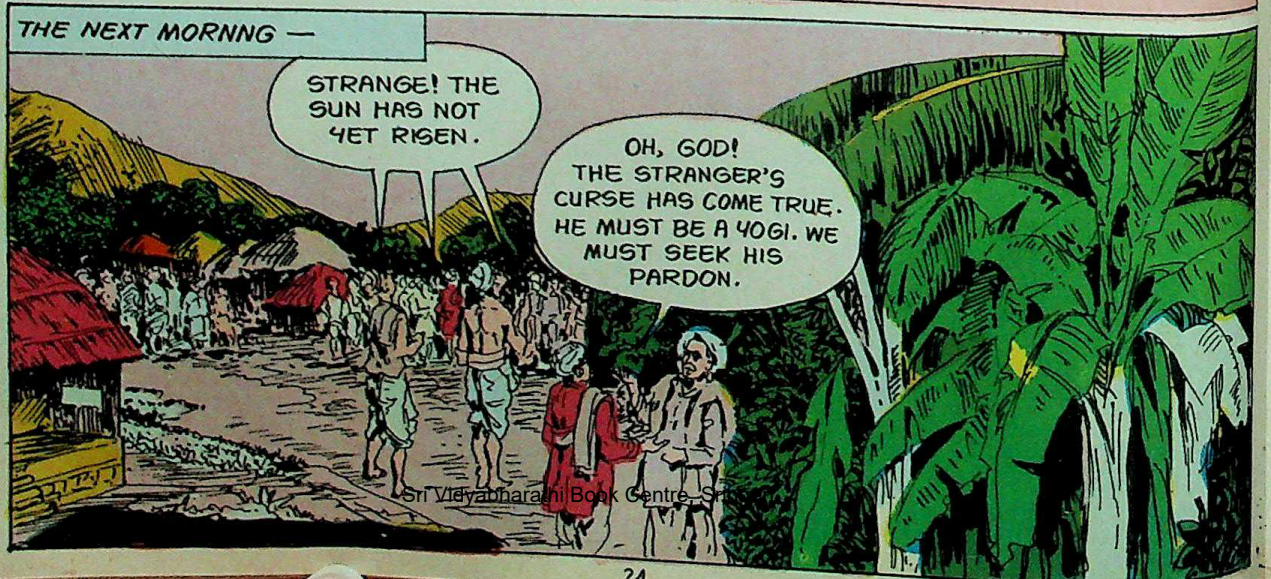






PRATAPAN SPOKE WITH SUCH CONFIDENCE BECAUSE HE KNEW THERE WAS GOING TO BE A TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN THE NEXT DAY, STARTING EVEN BEFORE DAWN.



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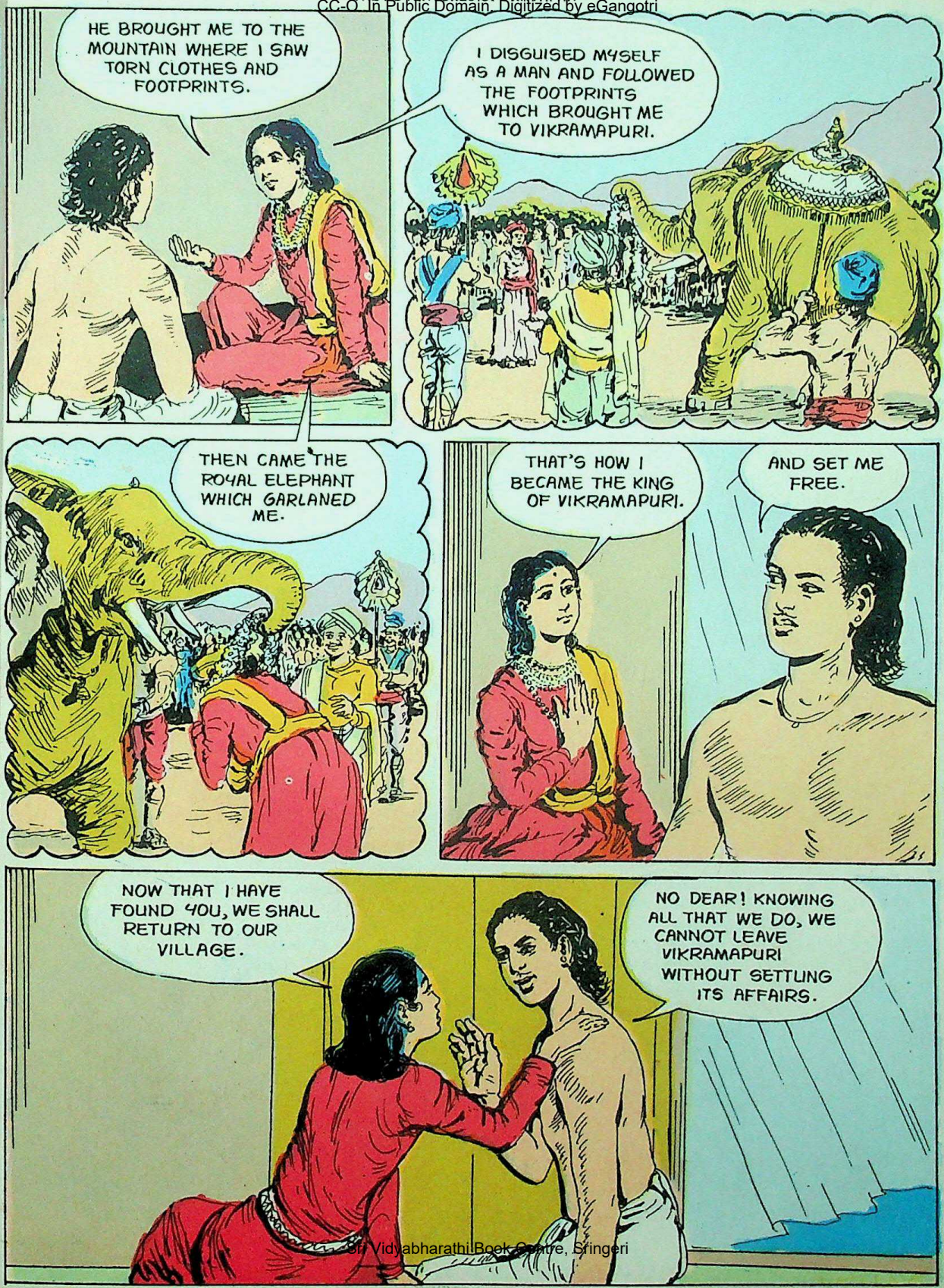

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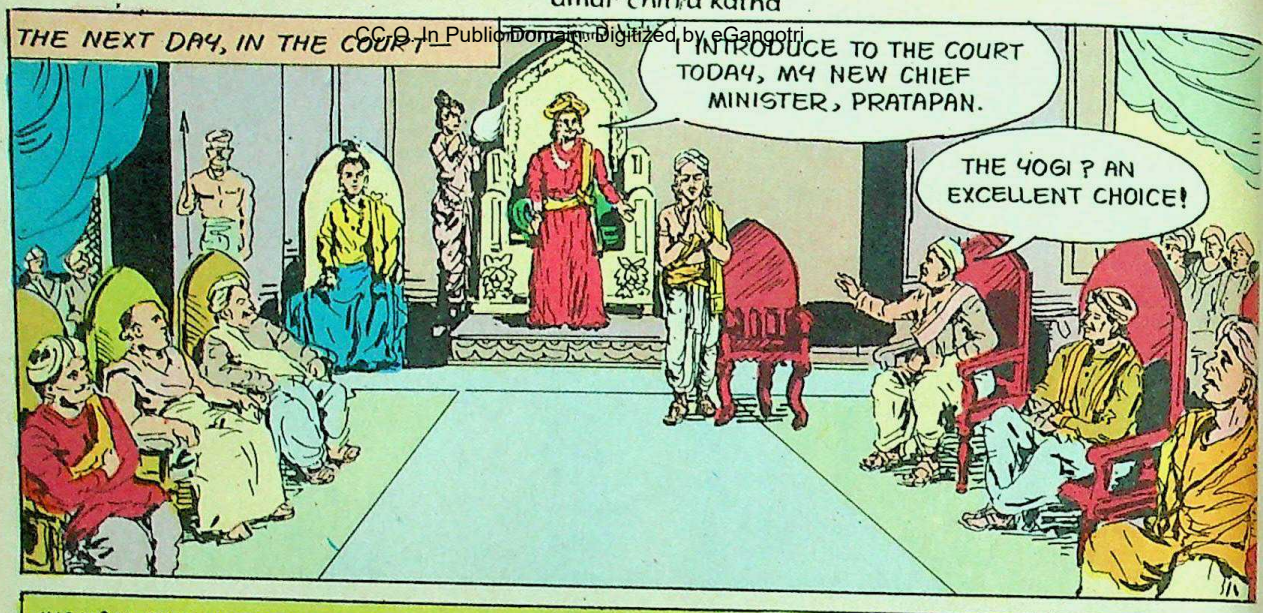

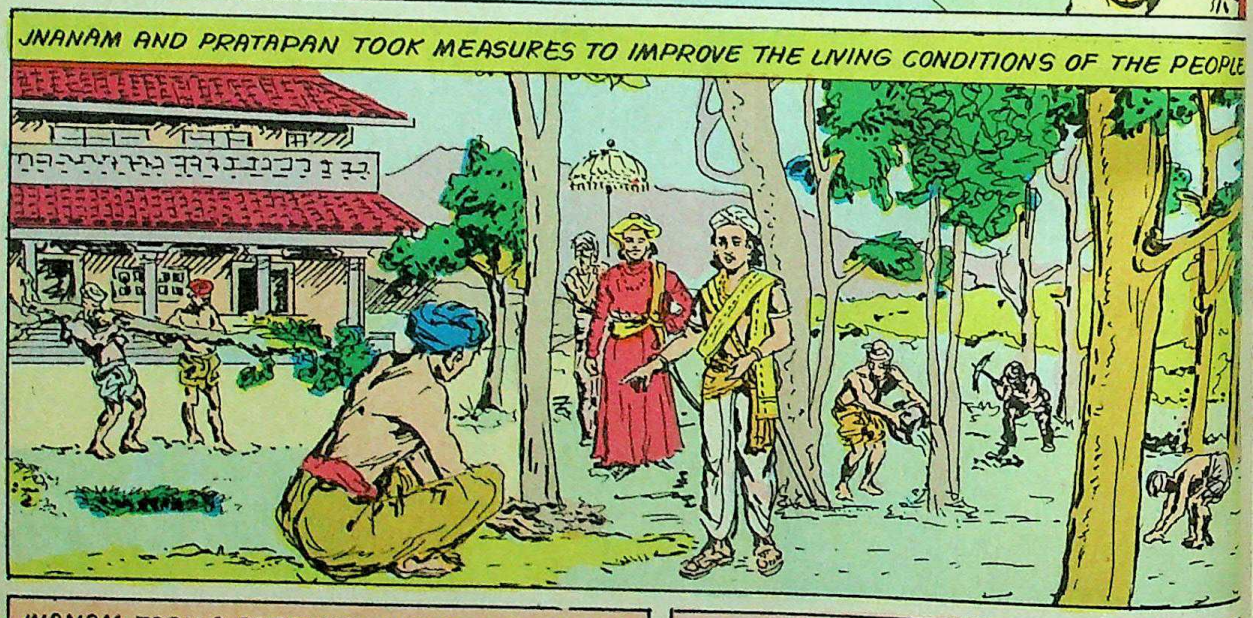

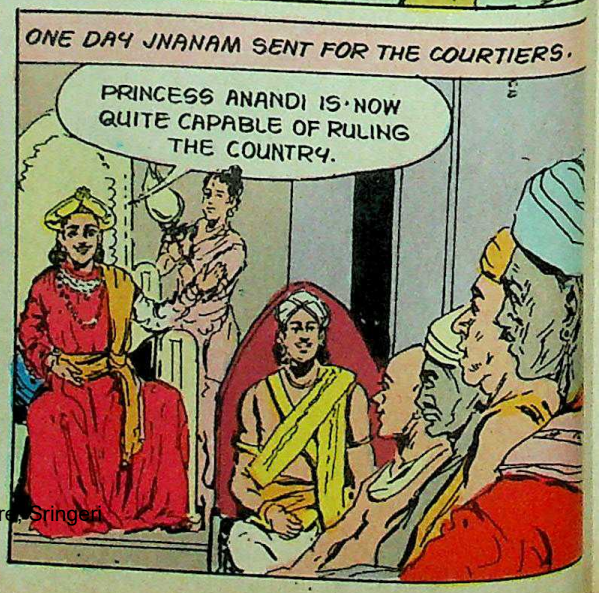

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... AND A WEEK LATER, REACHED SATYAPURI.

CHILDREN!

THE FOLLOWING DAY JNANAM HAD A VISITOR.

ANANDI!

YOU ARE LIKE MY SISTER. I HAVE NEITHER A FATHER NOR A MOTHER. PLEASE COME AND BLESS ME ON MY CORONATION DAY.

WE SHALL COME!

PRATAPAN AND JNANAM REACHED VIKRAMAPURI FOR THE CORONATION. AMIDST LOUD CRIES OF JOY JNANAM CROWNED ANANDI QUEEN OF VIKRAMAPURI.

LONG LIVE OUR QUEEN!

OUR BLESSINGS AND GOOD WISHES, MY DEAR GIRL.

Sri Vidyabharathi Bo... Singe...

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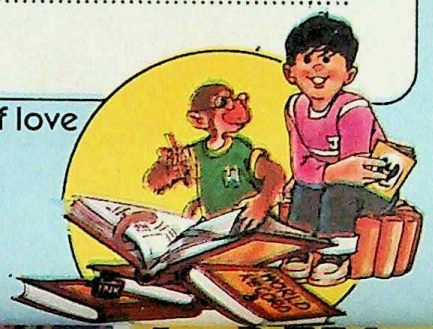

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Published by:
H.G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026
and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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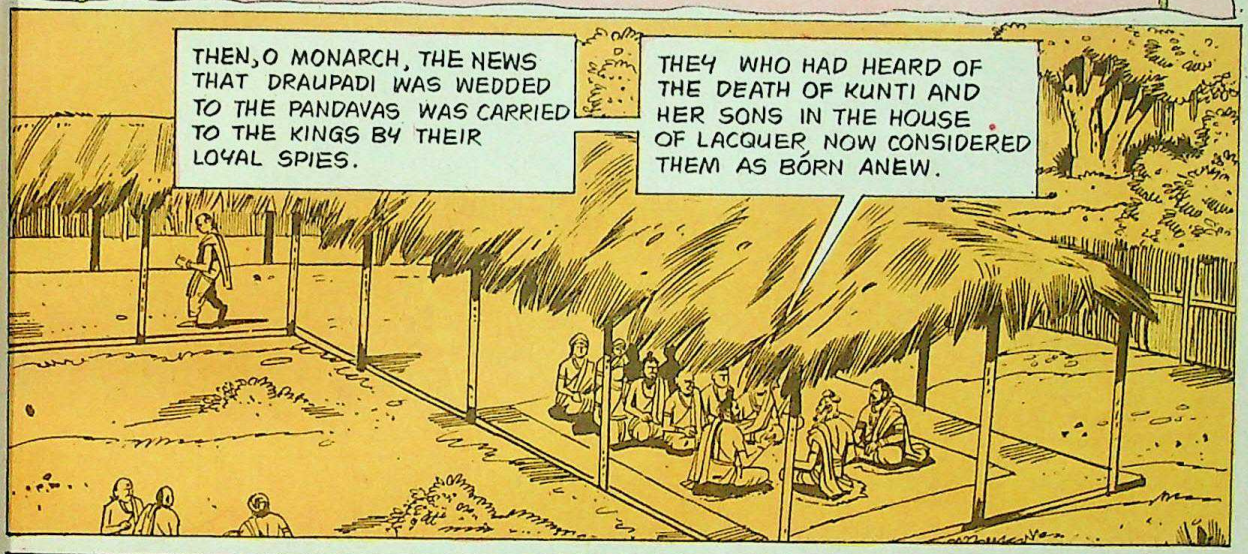

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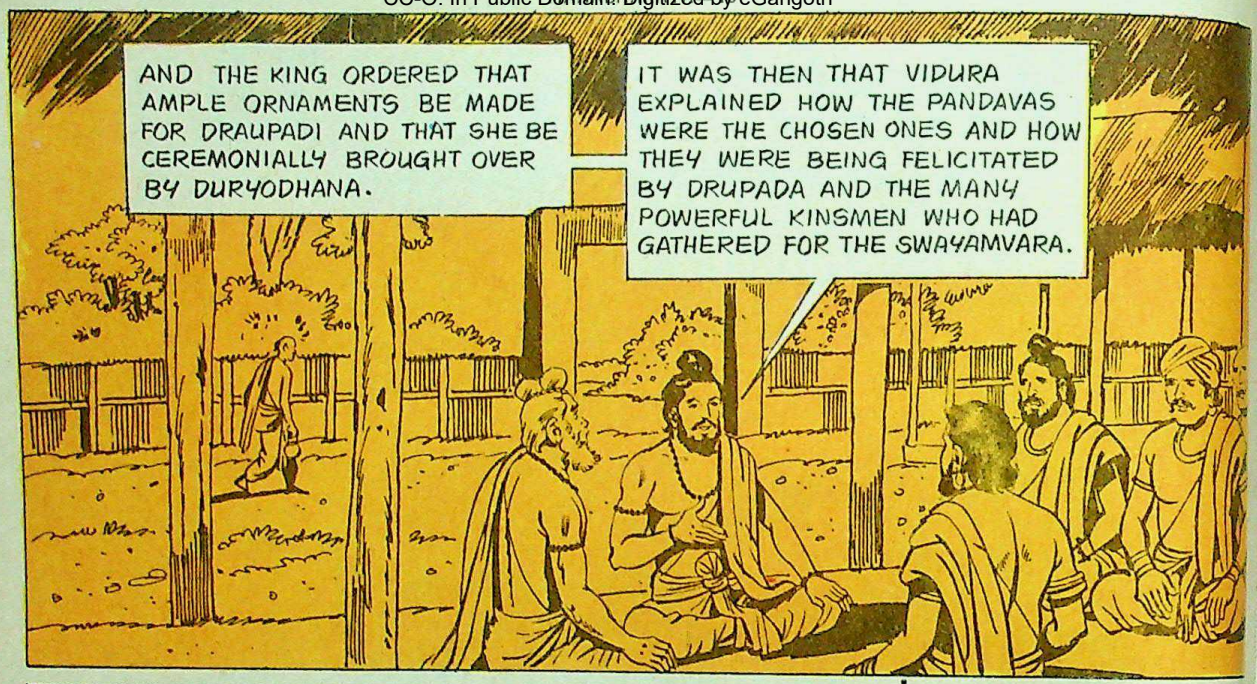

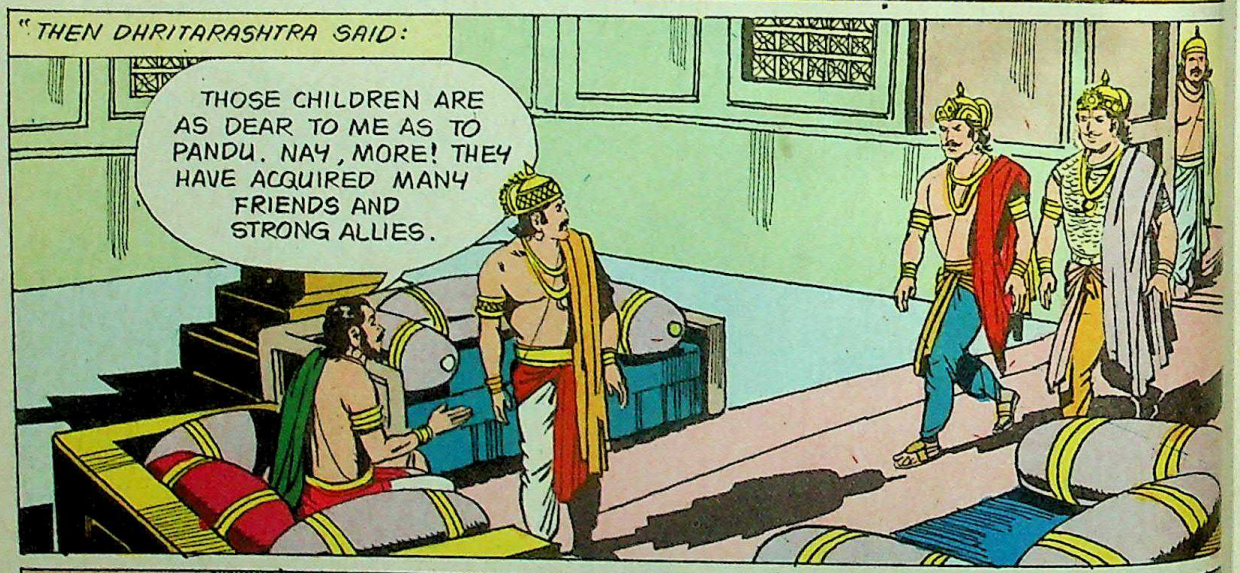

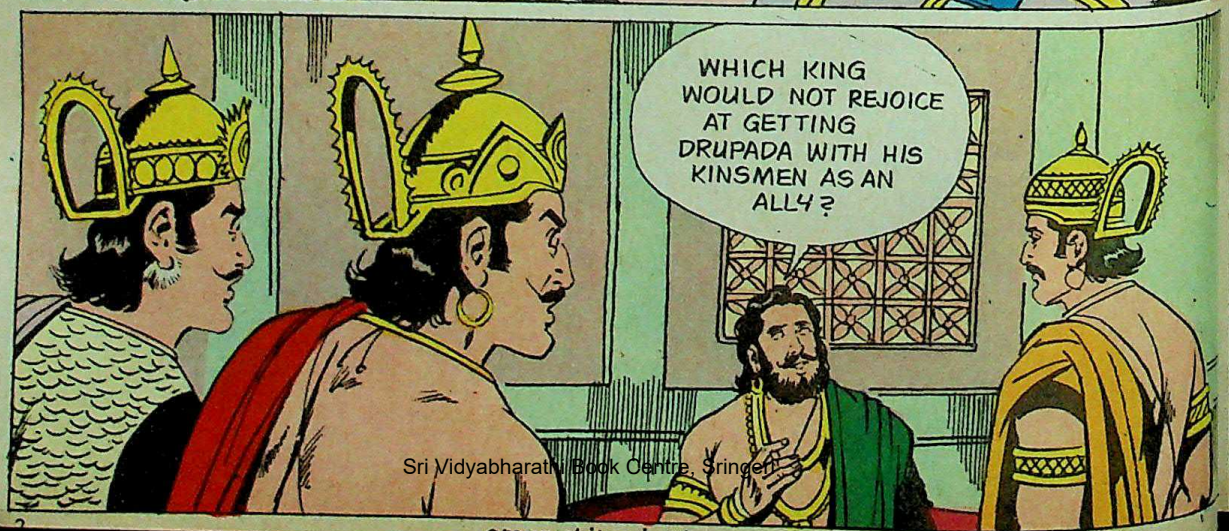

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"HEARING THESE WORDS, VIDURA SAID:

MAY THIS WISDOM BE WITH YOU FOR A HUNDRED YEARS!

"AND HAVING SAID THIS VIDURA LEFT FOR HIS ABODE.

"THEN, O MONARCH, DURYODHANA AND KARNA SAID TO DHRITARASHTRA:

O FATHER, WE COULD NOT SPEAK OUT IN VIDURA'S PRESENCE.

O KING, NOW YOU ARE ALONE. WE SHALL SPEAK OUR MINDS.

O FATHER, YOU MISTAKE THE PROSPERITY OF YOUR FOES AS YOUR OWN AND THEN PRAISE THEM IN FRONT OF VIDURA.

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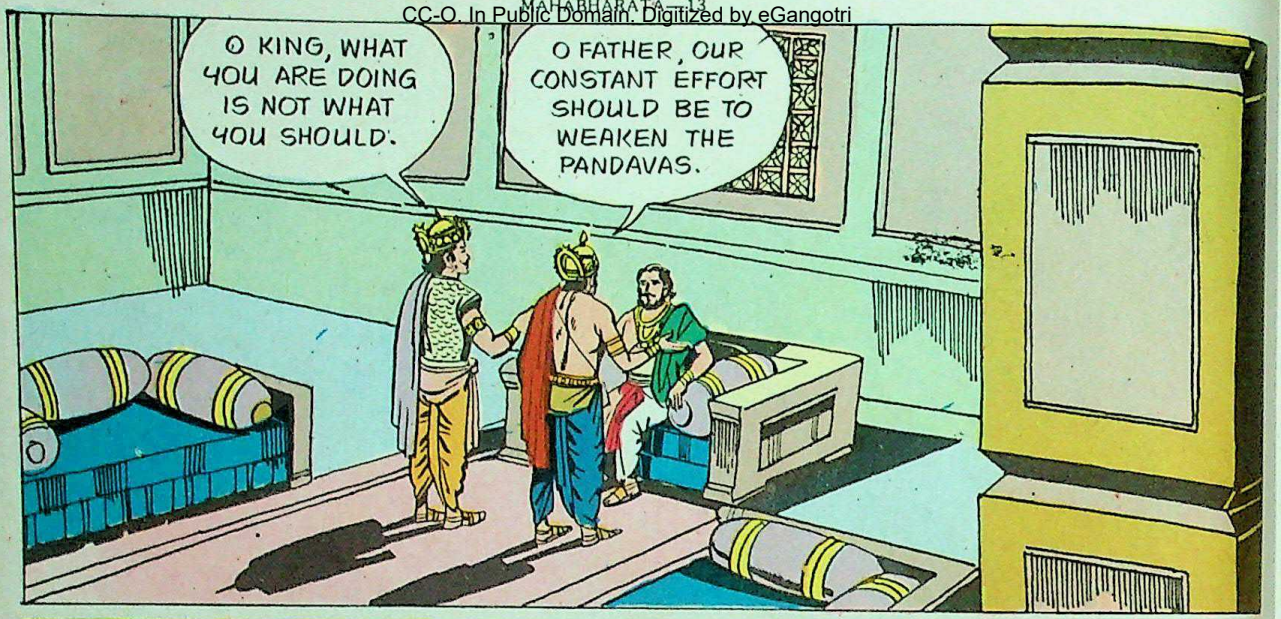

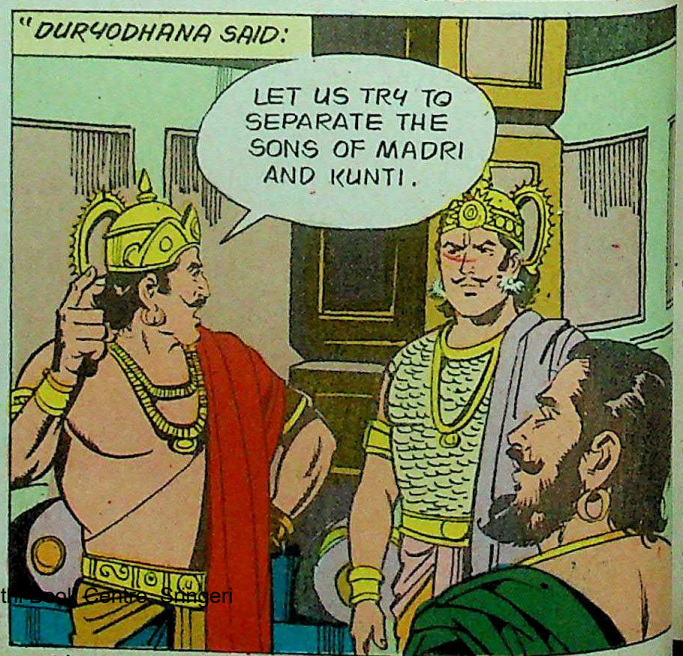

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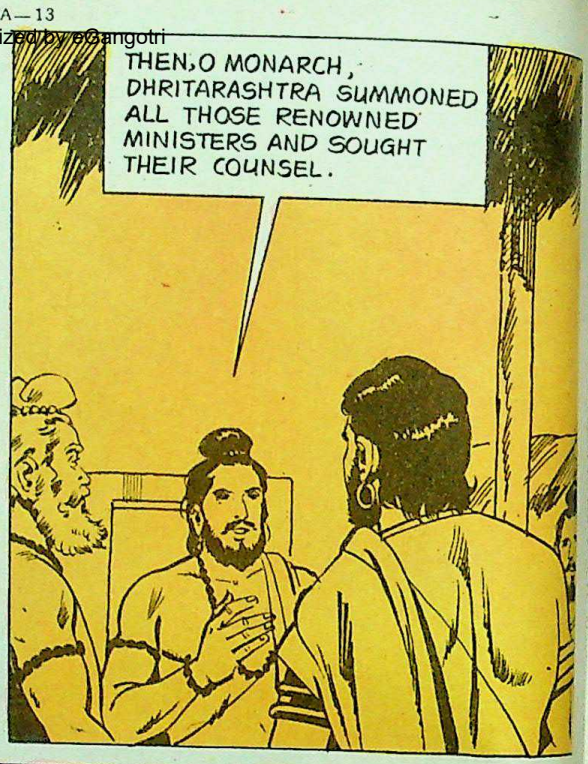

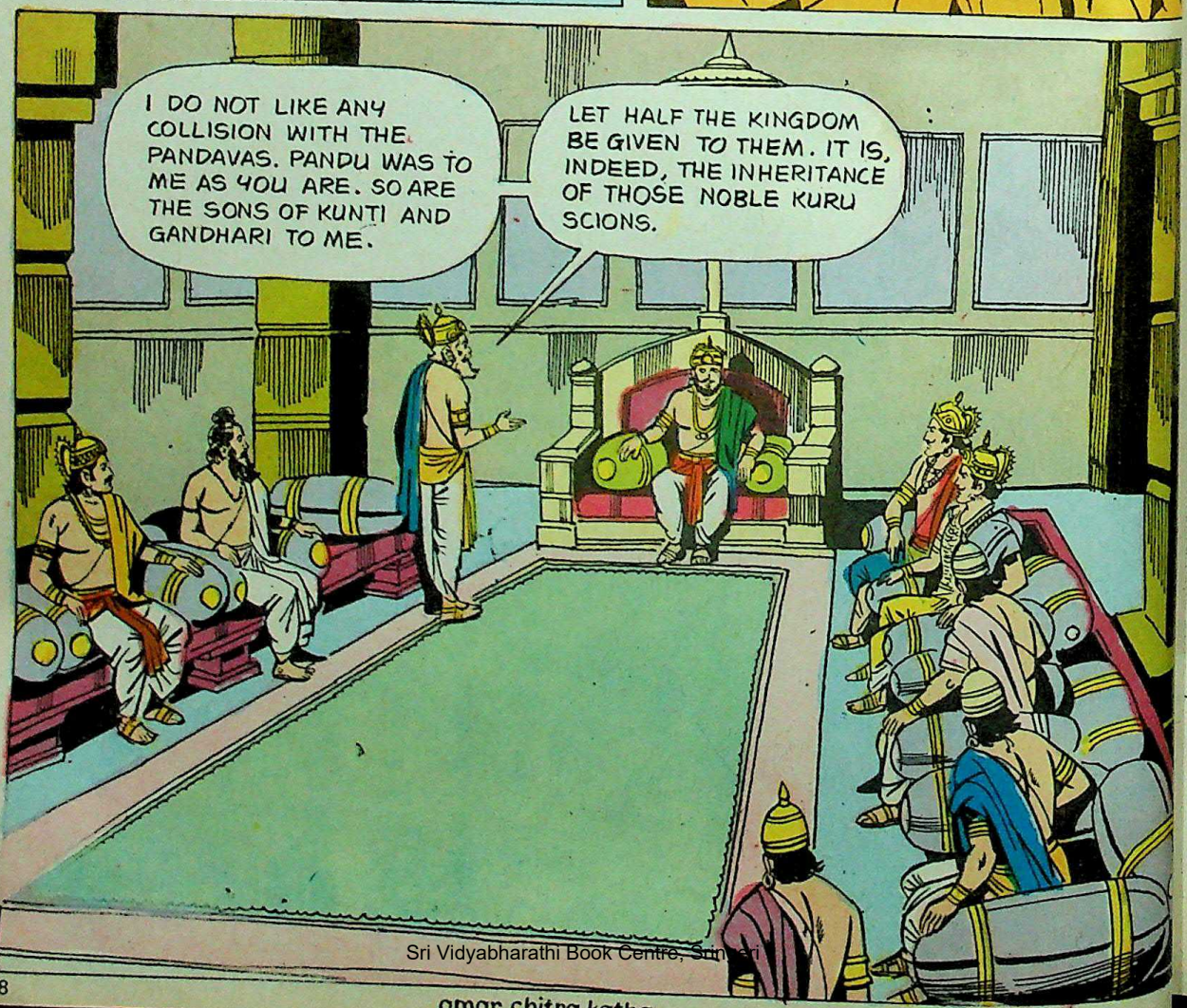

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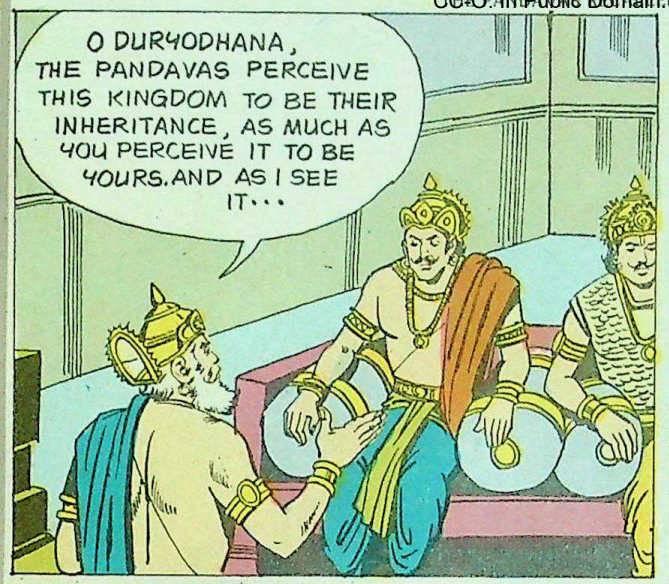

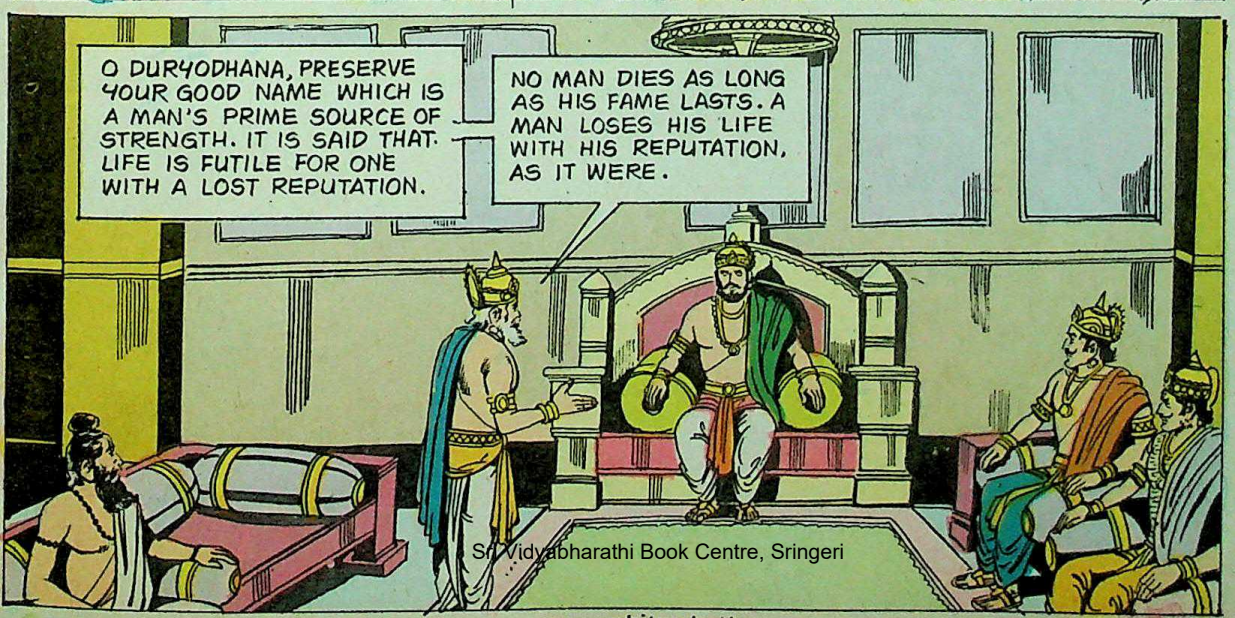

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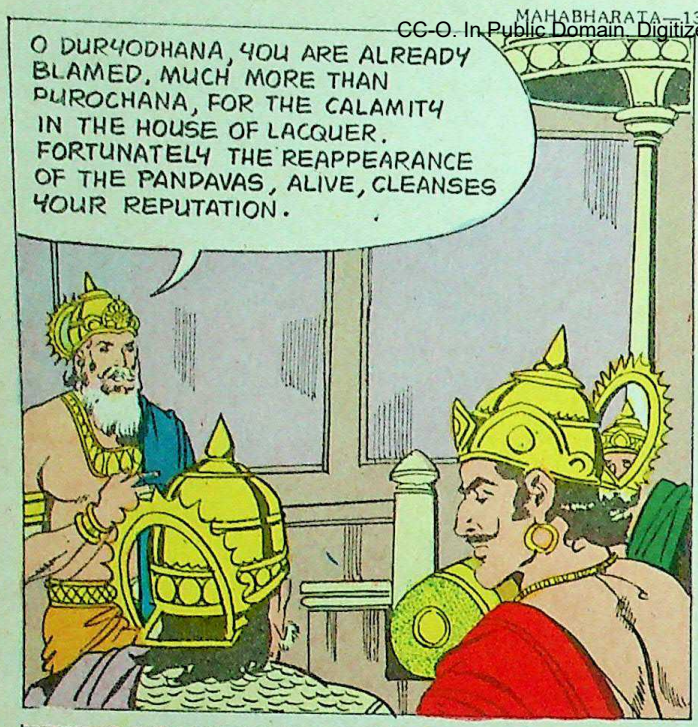

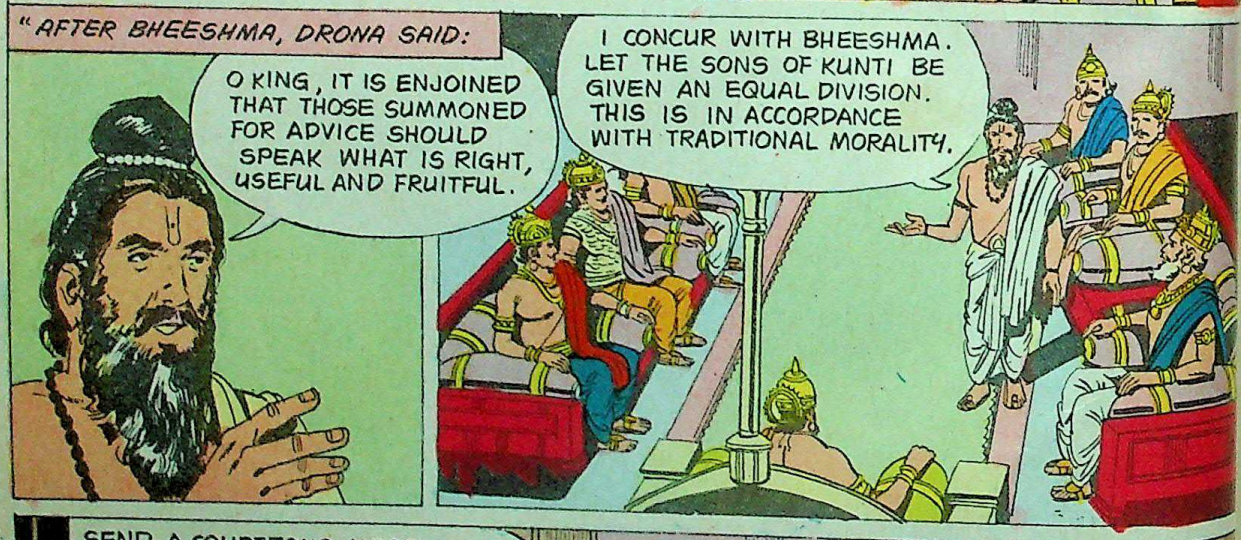

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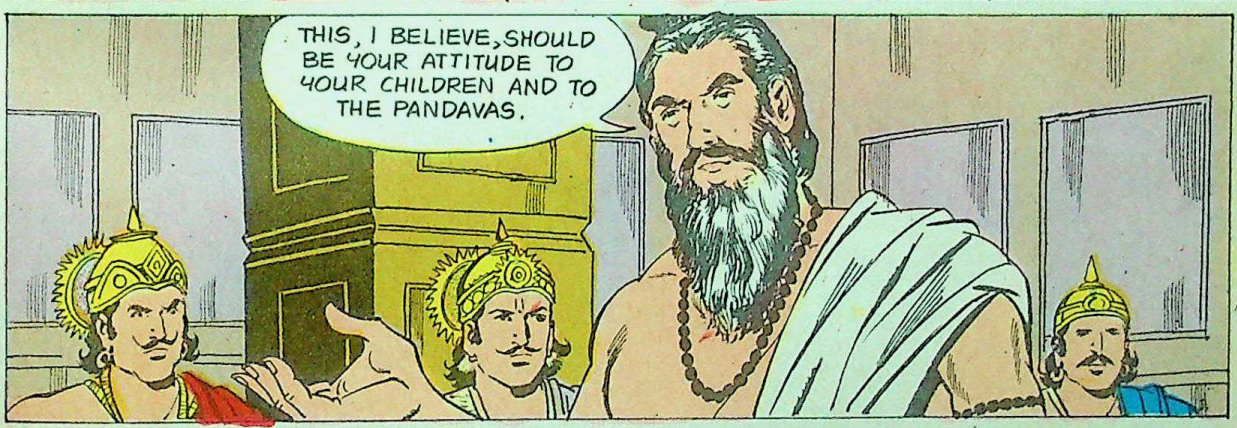

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IS IT NOT STRANGE THAT THEY SHOULD COUNSEL AGAINST YOU? HOW CAN GOOD BE WROUGHT BY THOSE WHOSE ADVICE TO THEIR FRIENDS CONCEALS EVIL INTENTS?

O WISE ONE, JUDGE FOR YOURSELF THE WORTH AND WORTHLESSNESS OF YOUR COUNSELLORS AND DECIDE WHICH ADVICE IS PURE AND WHICH, STAINED.

"THEN DRONA SAID:

I KNOW, O KARNA, THAT YOUR WORDS SPRING FROM MALICE. IT IS YOUR HATRED OF THE PANDAVAS THAT FINDS FAULT WITH US.

WHAT I SAY IS FOR THE GOOD OF THE KURU RACE. IF YOU DEEM IT BAD, TELL US WHAT IS GOOD.

IF YOU GO AGAINST MY COUNSEL, WHICH IS ALL FOR PROSPERITY, THE KAURAVAS WILL SOON COME TO RUIN.

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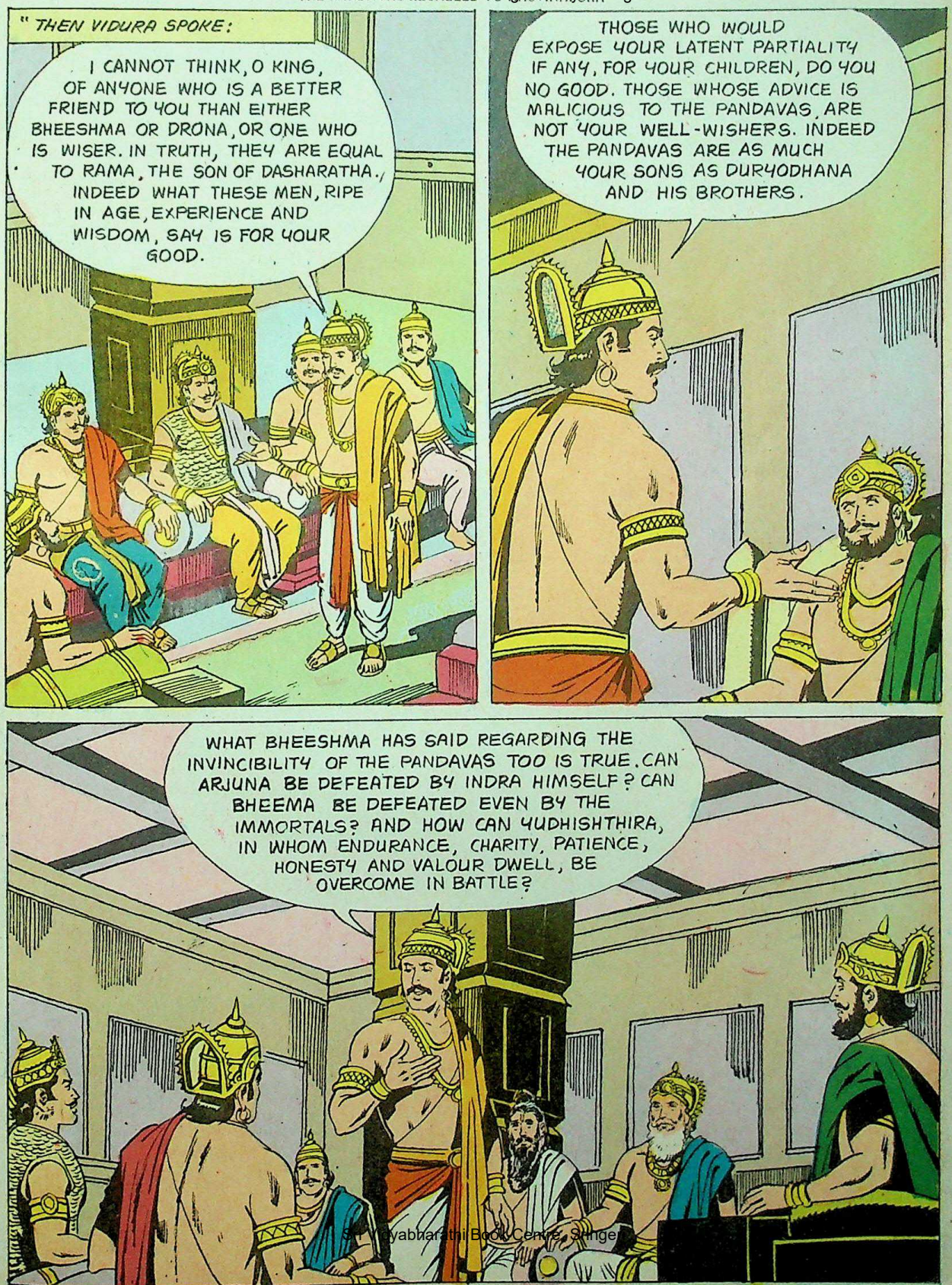

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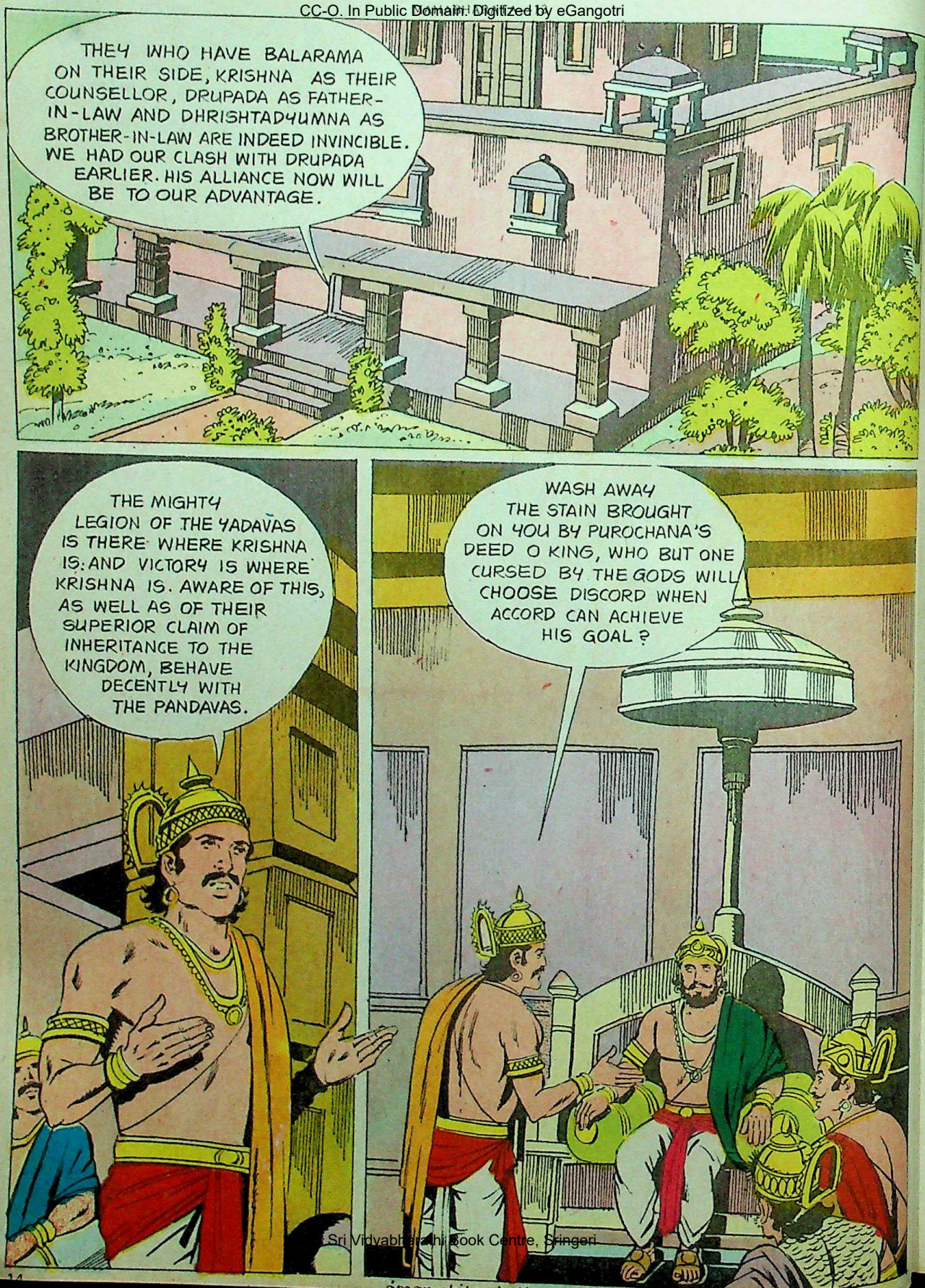

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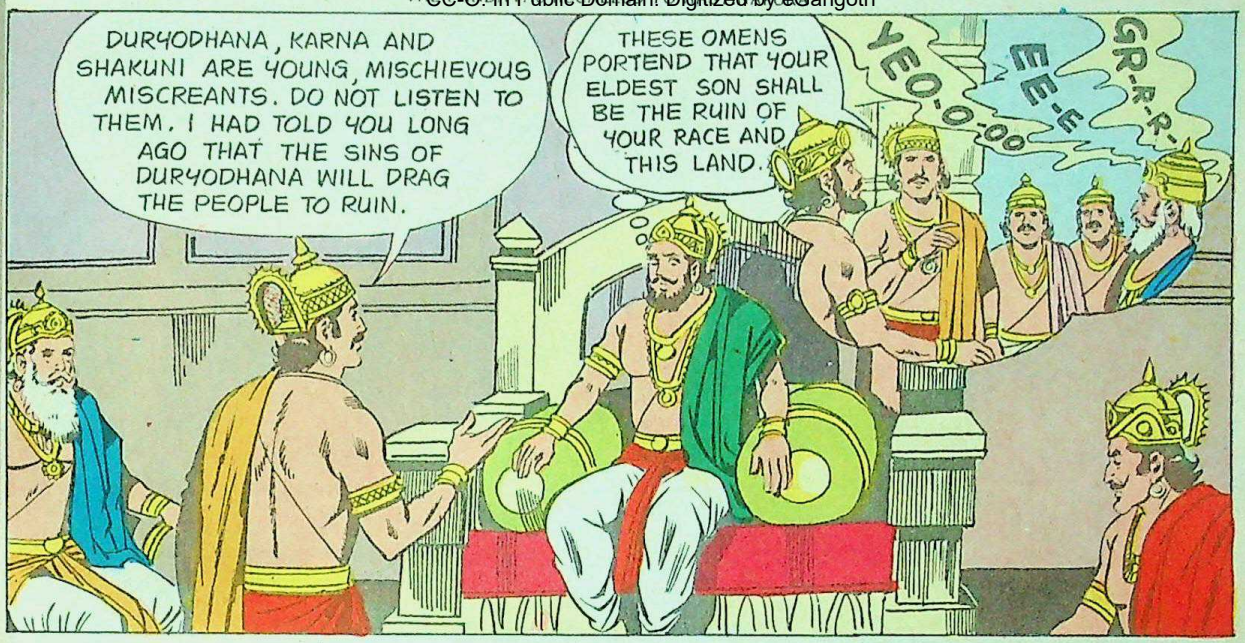

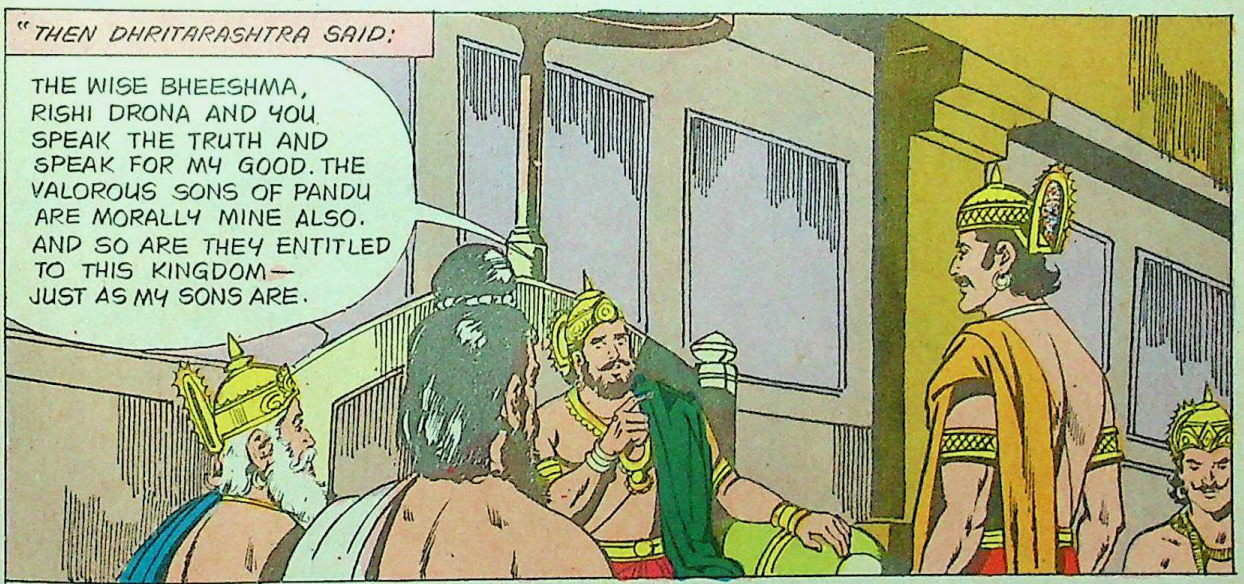

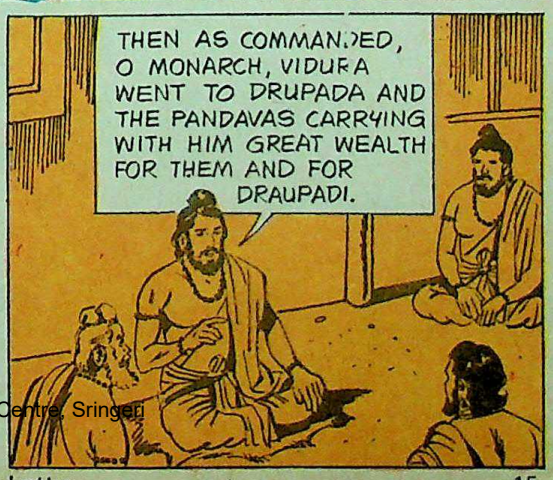

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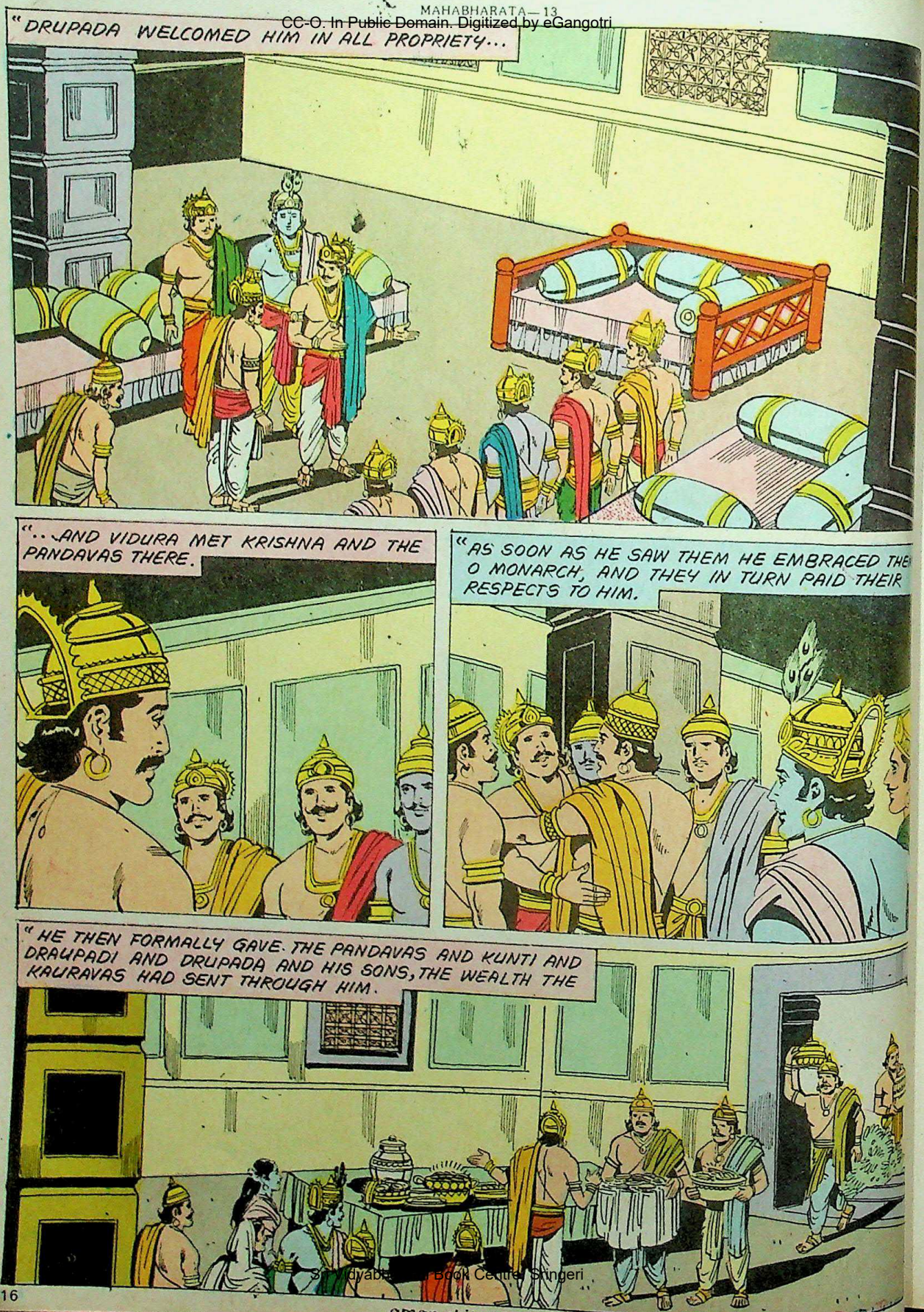

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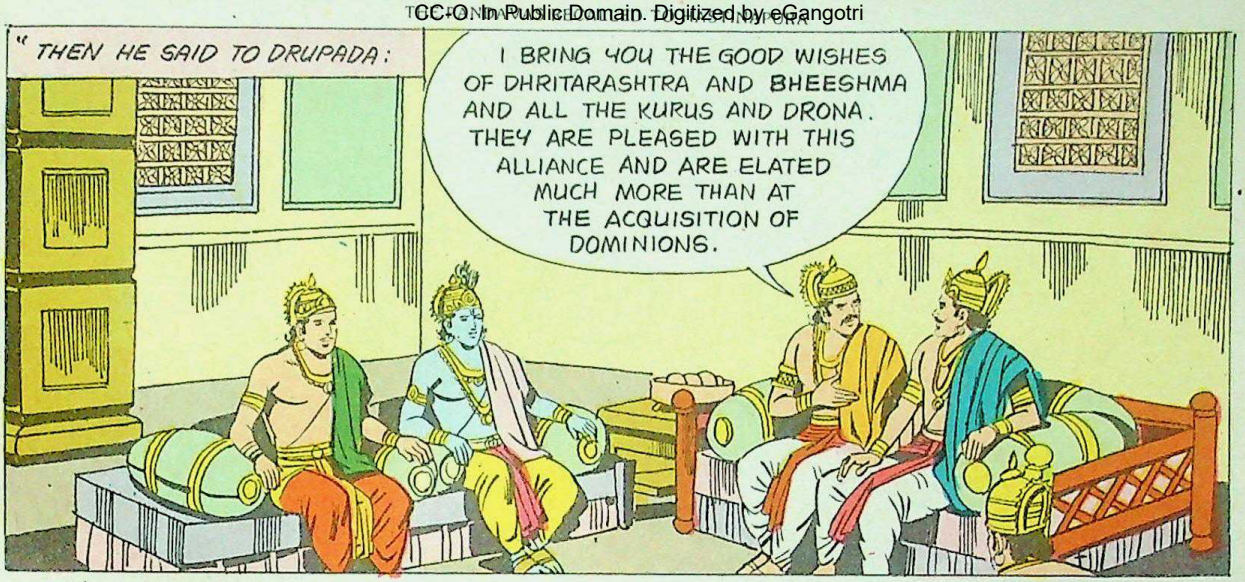

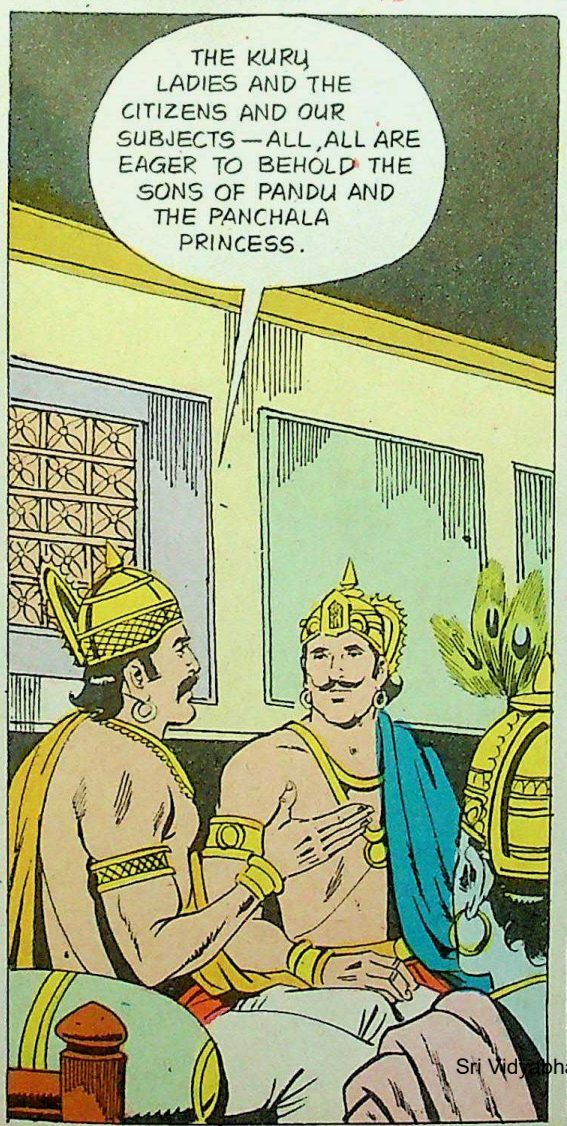

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AFTER YOU ISSUE THE INSTRUCTIONS, I SHALL SEND A SPEEDY MESSENGER TO DHRITARASHTRA TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF THE PANDAVAS WITH KUNTI AND KRISHNAA*.

"THEN DRUPADA SAID.

O WISE VIDURA, THIS ALLIANCE GIVES ME, TOO, GREAT JOY. IT IS ONLY PROPER THAT THESE HEROES RETURN TO THEIR CITY. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT PROPER FOR ME TO SUGGEST IT.

IF THESE VALIANT SONS OF KUNTI AND THEIR CONSTANT WELL-WISHERS — BALARAMA AND KRISHNA — WOULD HAVE IT SO, THEN LET THEM PROCEED.

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* DRAUPADI

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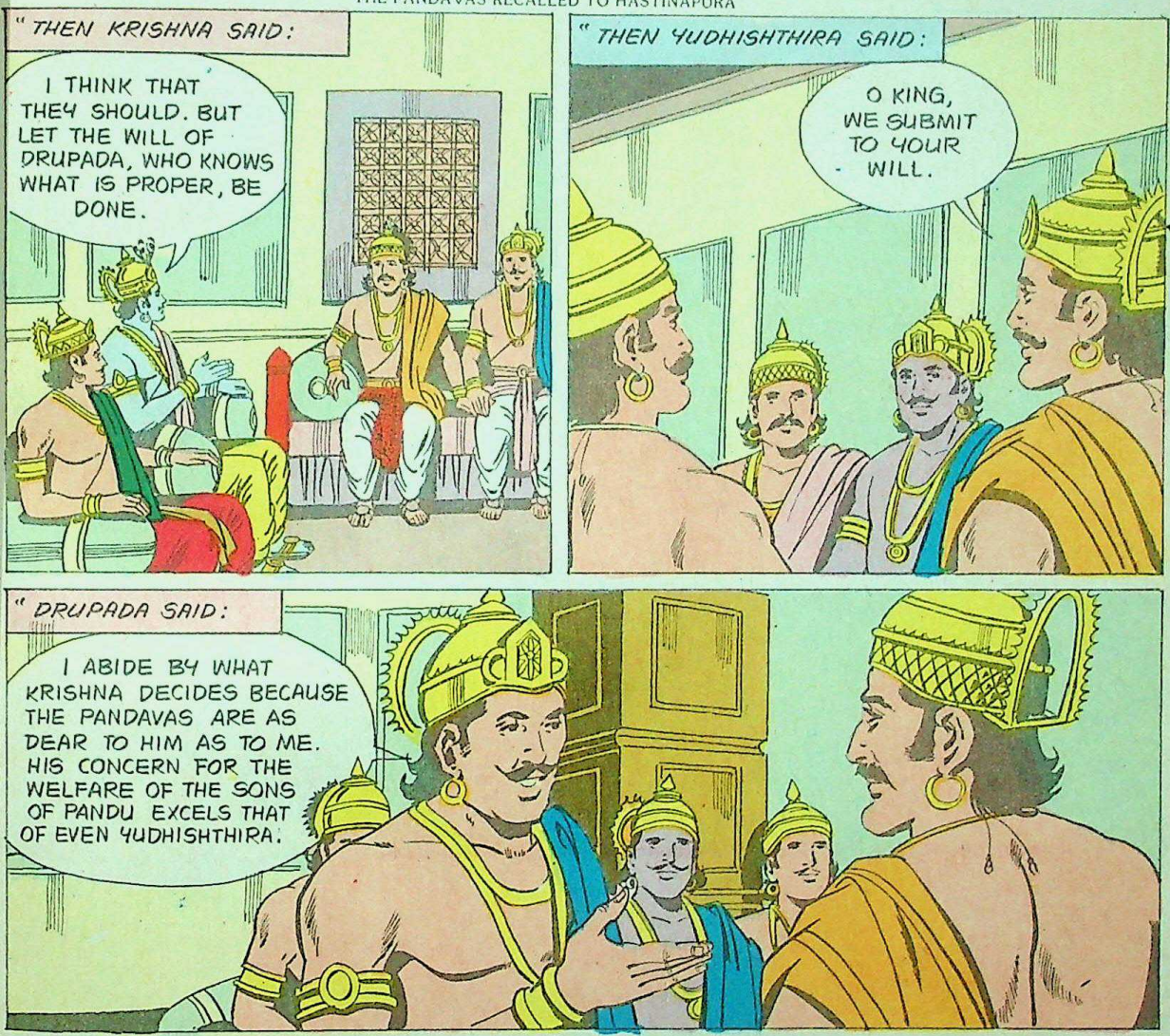

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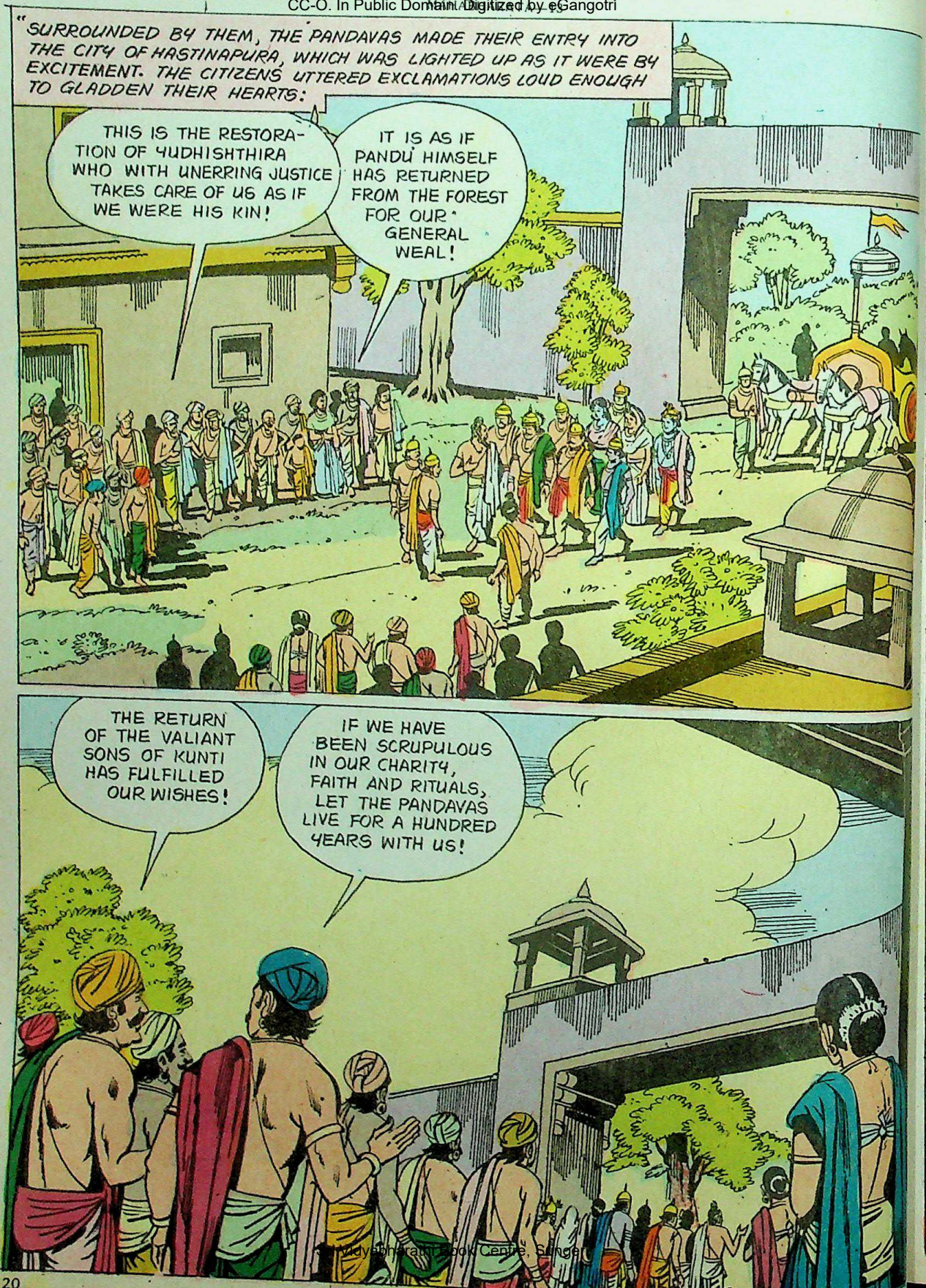

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"THEN THE PANDAVAS MADE THEIR WAY TO DHRITARASHTRA AND BHEESHMA AND PAID OBEISANCE TO THEM.

THEN, AT THE BEHEST OF DHRITARASHTRA, THEY ENTERED THEIR APARTMENTS. AND AFTER THEY HAD RESTED FOR A WHILE THEY WERE SUMMONED BY DHRITARASHTRA AND BHEESHMA.

"AND DHRITARASHTRA SAID:

TAKE POSSESSION OF HALF THE KINGDOM AND RULE OVER IT FROM KHANDAVAPRASTHA, SO THAT THERE IS NO FURTHER DISSENSION. NO HARM WILL COME TO YOU THERE WITH ARJUNA TO PROTECT YOU.

"ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL, THE PANDAVAS SET OUT FROM HASTINAPURA, AND LED BY KRISHNA...

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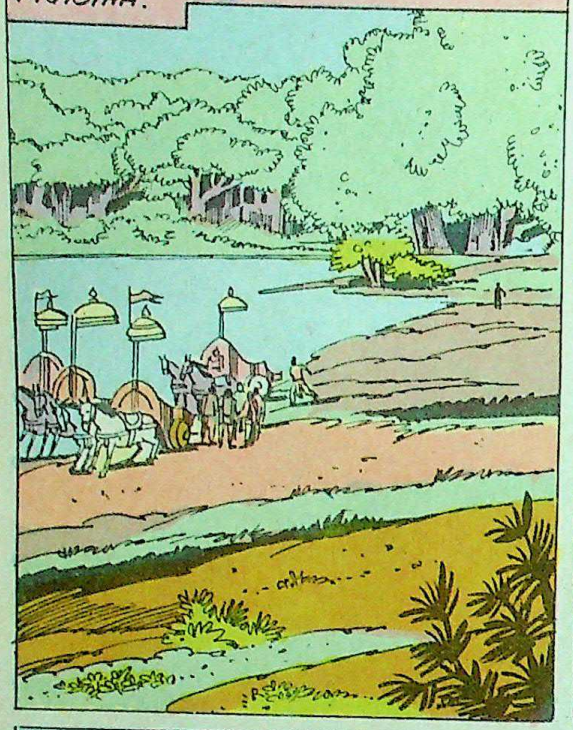
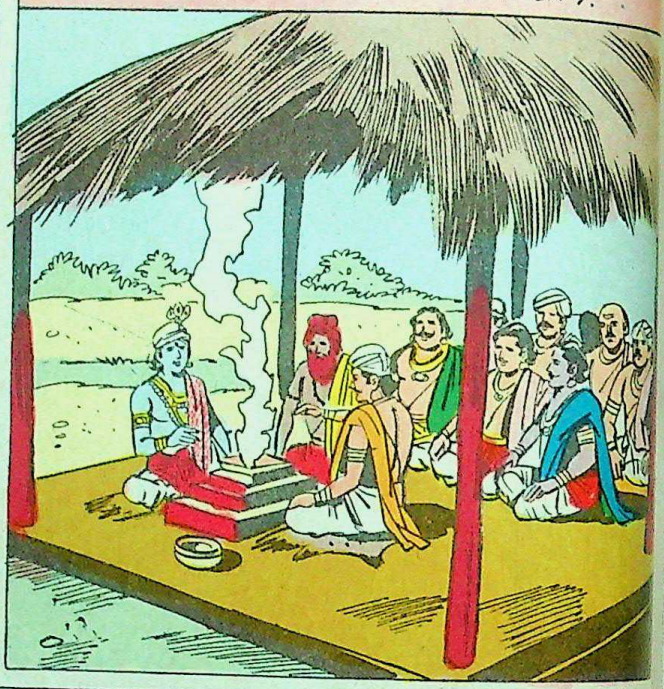
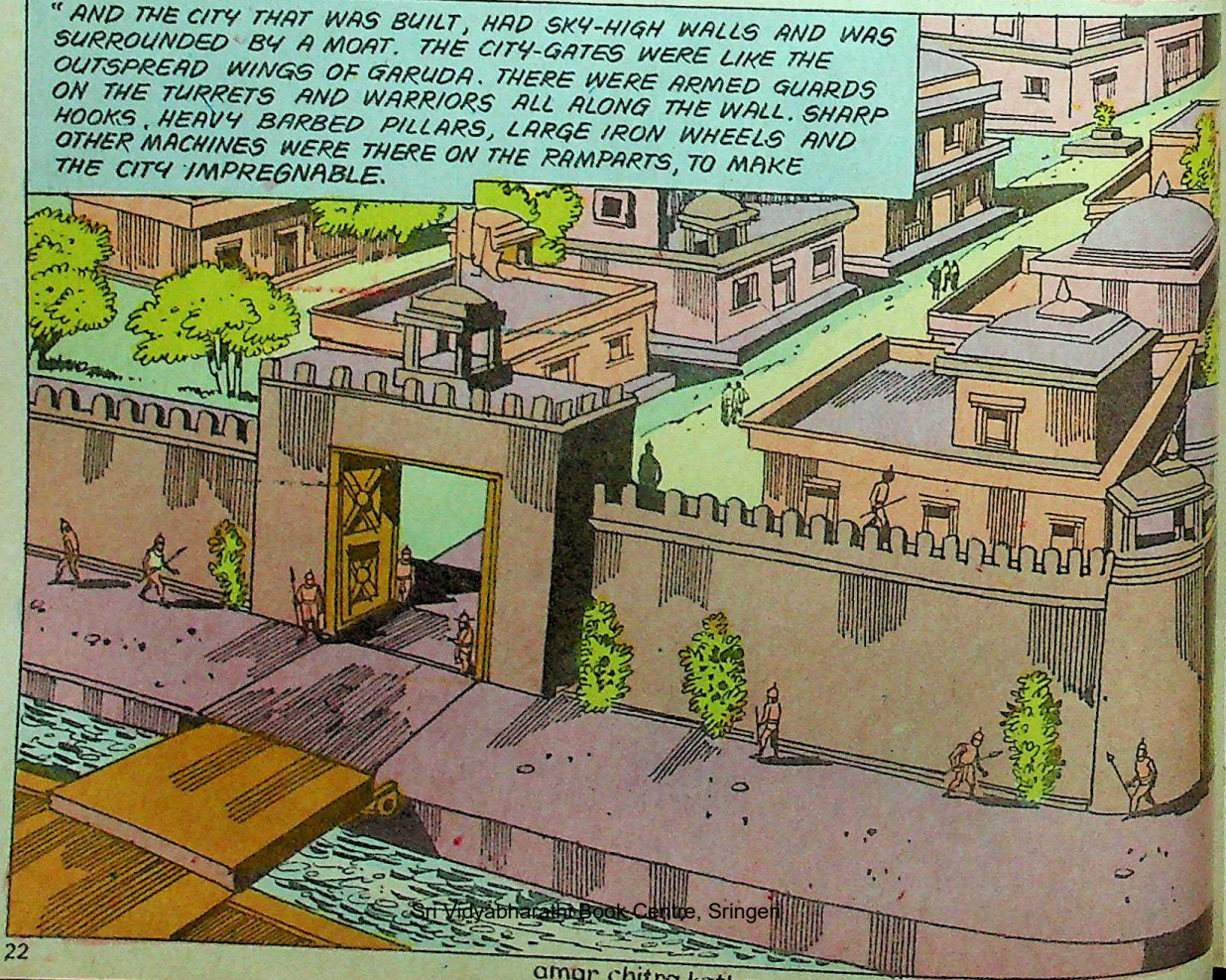
"...THEY ARRIVED AT KHANDAVA-PRASTHA.



"THEN THOSE HEROES, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF MY GURU VEDA VYASA, HAD A PLOT MEASURED AND CONSECRATED FOR BUILDING A CITY.



"AND THE CITY THAT WAS BUILT, HAD SKY-HIGH WALLS AND WAS SURROUNDED BY A MOAT. THE CITY-GATES WERE LIKE THE OUTSPREAD WINGS OF GARUDA. THERE WERE ARMED GUARDS ON THE TURRETS AND WARRIORS ALL ALONG THE WALL. SHARP HOOKS, HEAVY BARBED PILLARS, LARGE IRON WHEELS AND OTHER MACHINES WERE THERE ON THE RAMPARTS, TO MAKE THE CITY IMPREGNABLE.



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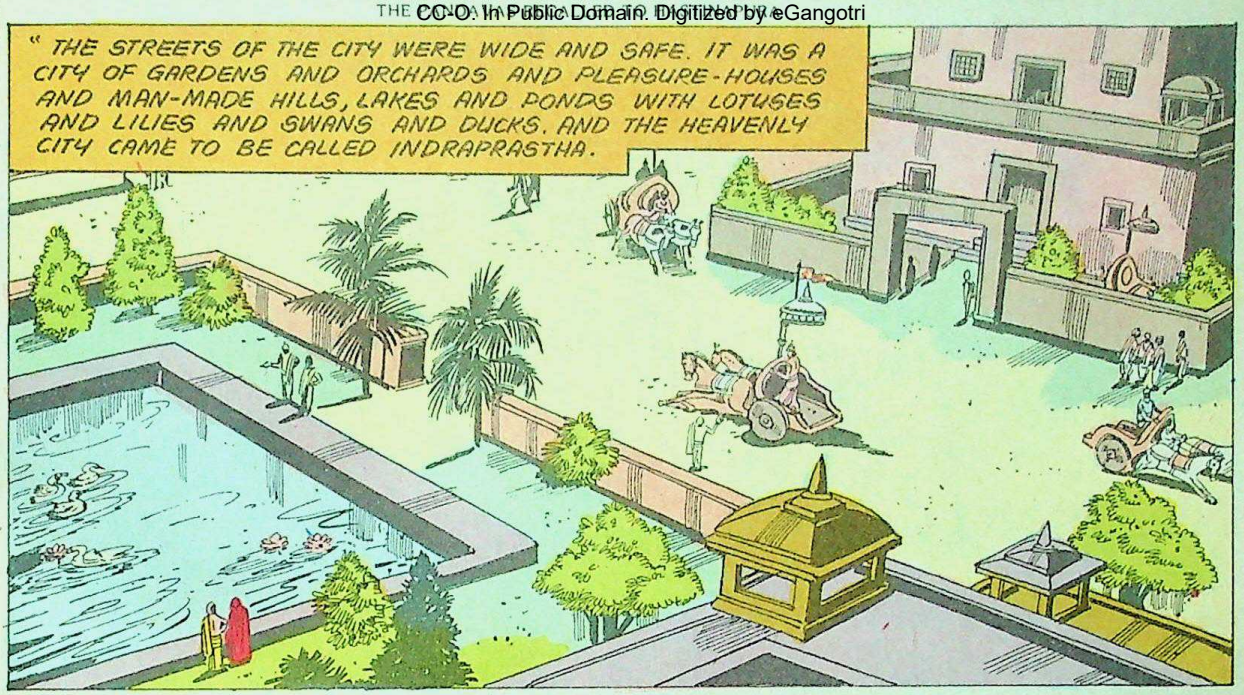
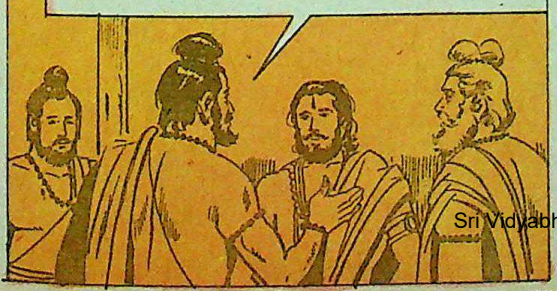
"THE STREETS OF THE CITY WERE WIDE AND SAFE. IT WAS A CITY OF GARDENS AND ORCHARDS AND PLEASURE-HOUSES AND MAN-MADE HILLS, LAKES AND PONDS WITH LOTUSES AND LILIES AND SWANS AND DUCKS. AND THE HEAVENLY CITY CAME TO BE CALLED INDRAPRASTHA.



"THE PALACE OF THE PANDAVAS BUILT IN AN AUSPICIOUS AND BEAUTIFUL PART OF THE CITY WAS REPLETE WITH WEALTH AND RICH AS KUBERA'S ABODE.

AND THERE CAME TO STAY IN THAT CITY LEARNED BRAHMANAS AND MERCHANTS AND ARTISANS. AND THE PROSPERITY OF THE PANDAVAS LIVING IN THAT CITY PEOPLED BY GOOD MEN, O MONARCH, INCREASED DAY BY DAY.



"THEN, HAVING SETTLED THE PANDAVAS, KRISHNA ALONG WITH BALARAMA TOOK LEAVE OF THEM AND LEFT FOR DWARAKA.

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O SAGE, WHAT DID THE PANDAVAS DO AFTER ACQUIRING INDRAPRASTHA? HOW DID THEY, FIVE OF THEM WITH ONE WIFE, LIVE WITHOUT ANY DISCORD?

THEY LIVED HAPPILY, O MONARCH. YUDHISHTHIRA RULED OVER THE KINGDOM WITH THE HELP OF HIS BROTHERS.

"THEN ONE DAY IT SO HAPPENED THAT THE SAGE NARADA ENTERED THE COURT OF THE PANDAVAS.

"YUDHISHTHIRA SENT WORD TO DRAUPADI.

"THE VIRTUOUS PRINCESS THEN CAME AND...

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"...PAID OBEISANCE TO THE RISHI AND STOOD WITH JOINED PALMS BEFORE HIM WHILE HE BLESSED HER.

"WHEN THEY WERE ALONE, THE RISHI SAID TO THE PANDAVAS:

IN DAYS GONE BY THERE WERE TWO ASURA BROTHERS, SUNDA AND UPASUNDA, WHO WERE LIKE TWO BEINGS WITH ONE SOUL. EATING, DRINKING, SLEEPING, LIVING AND RULING OVER THE LAND, THEY WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER.

AND YET THEY KILLED EACH OTHER FOR THE SAKE OF TILOTTAMA, THE APSARA.

THEREFORE, IN MY AFFECTION, I TELL YOU TO DEVISE SOME ORDER LEST YOU SHOULD QUARREL AMONG YOURSELVES OVER DRAUPADI.

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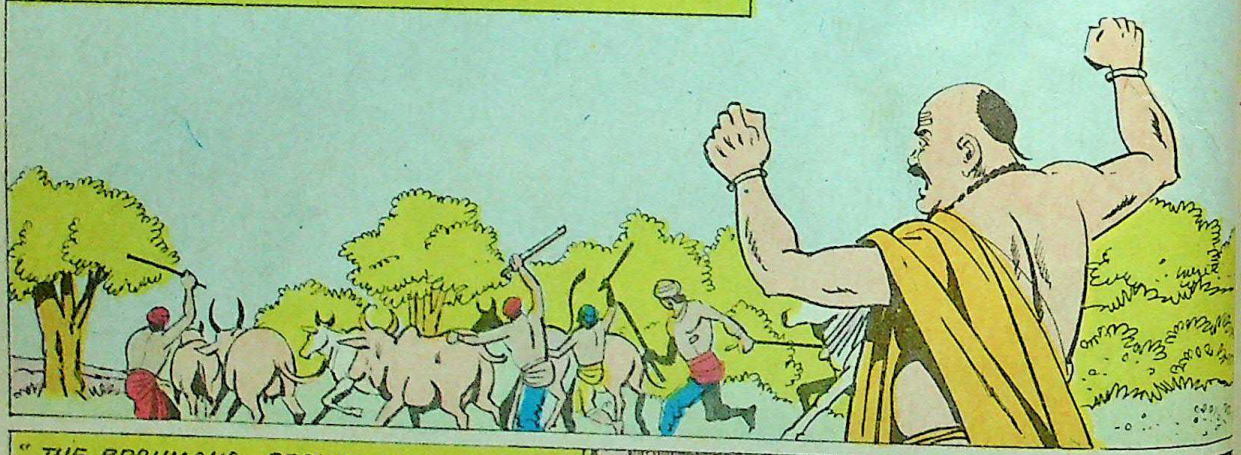
THE AFFECTIONATE BROTHERS THEN LAID DOWN A RULE IN THE RISHI'S PRESENCE. THE RULE WAS THAT WHEN ONE OF THEM WAS WITH DRAUPADI SHOULD ANY OF THE OTHER FOUR SEE THEM, HE MUST RETIRE TO THE FOREST FOR TWELVE YEARS AND LIVE IN CELIBACY.

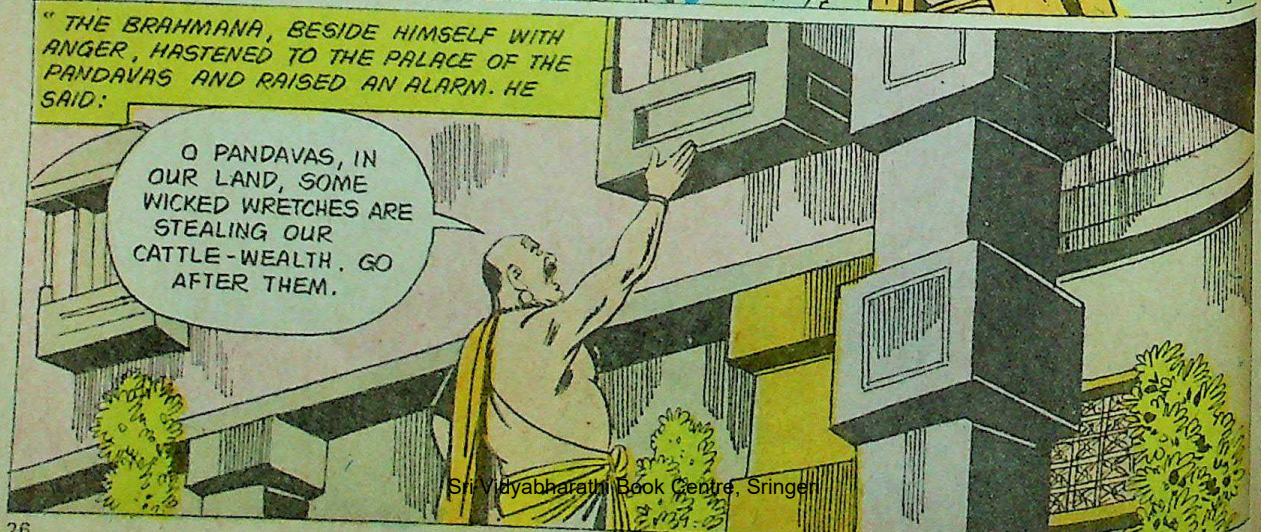
PLEASED WITH THE DECISION OF THE PANDAVAS, NARADA WENT HIS WAY.

"DAYS AFTERWARDS, O MONARCH SOME THIEVES DROVE AWAY THE COWS OF A BRAHMANA.



"THE BRAHMANA, BESIDE HIMSELF WITH ANGER, HASTENED TO THE PALACE OF THE PANDAVAS AND RAISED AN ALARM. HE SAID:

O PANDAVAS, IN OUR LAND, SOME WICKED WRETCHES ARE STEALING OUR CATTLE-WEALTH. GO AFTER THEM.



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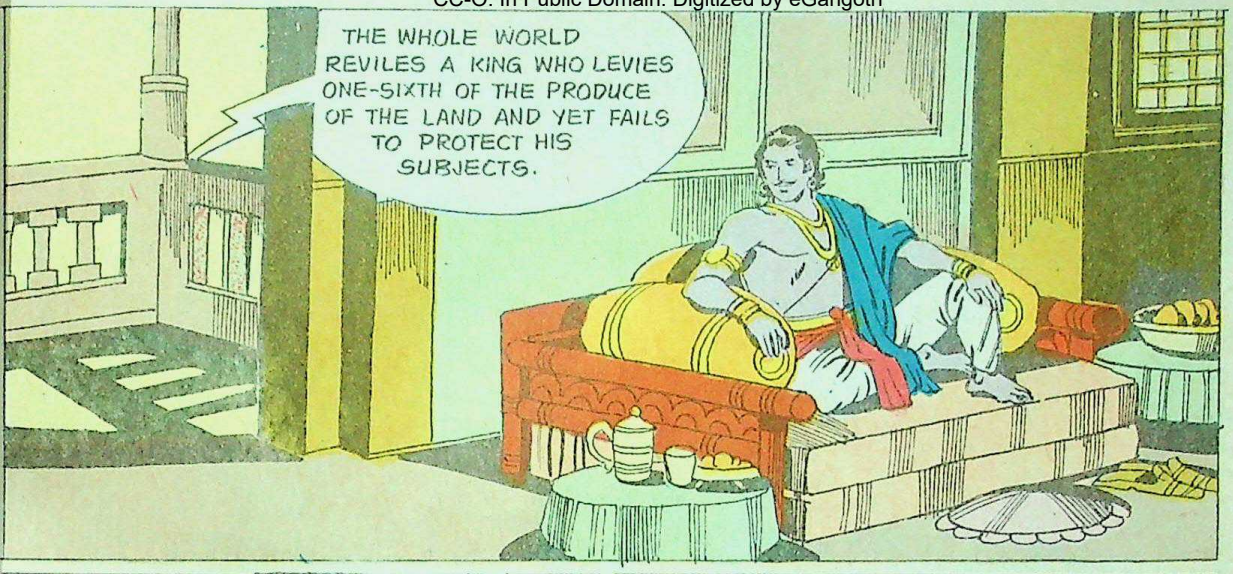

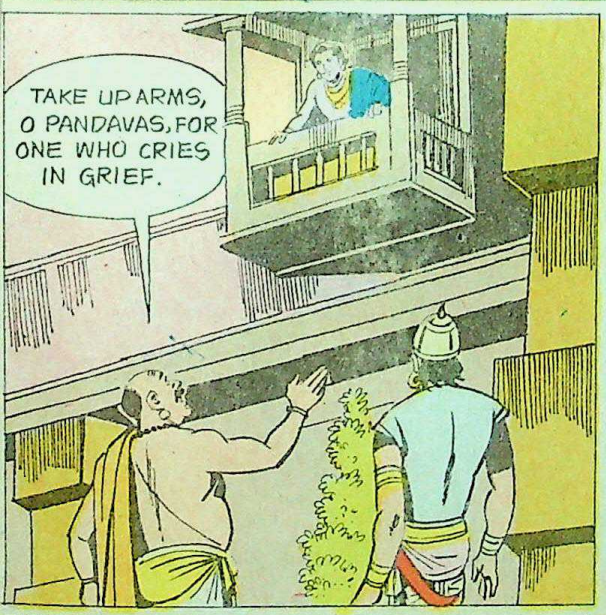

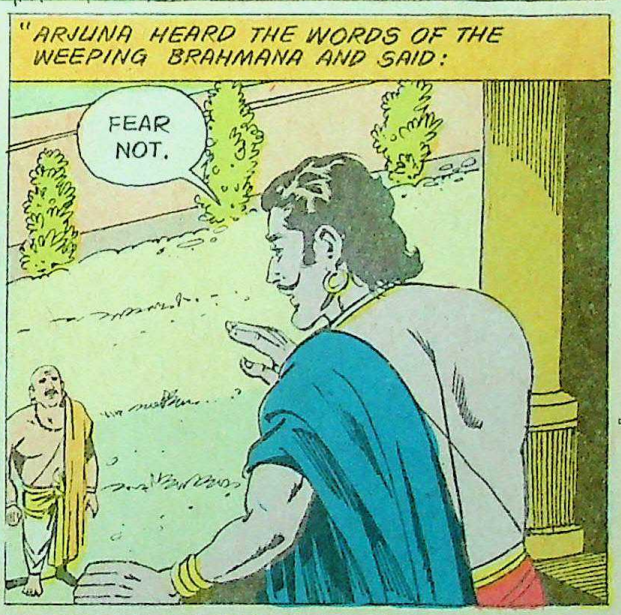

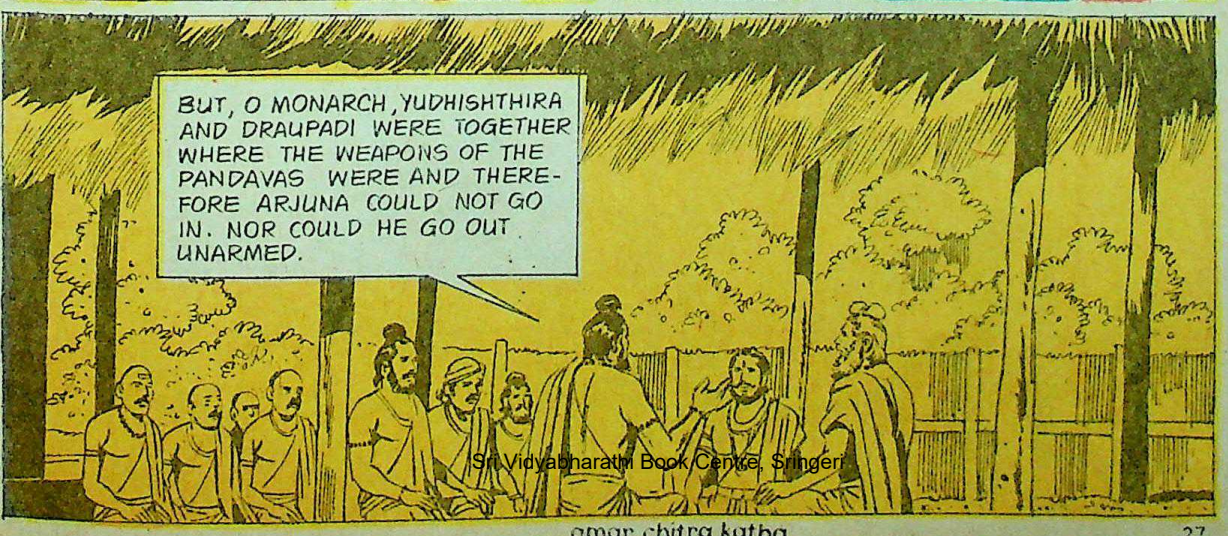

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"WHILE THE BRAHMANA'S LAMENTATION TURNED MORE INSISTENT, ARJUNA THOUGHT IN DIRE SORROW:

IF I DO NOT GO TO THE AID OF THIS BRAHMANA, THE KING WILL BE TAINTED BY THE SIN OF OMISSION AND ALL WILL ACCUSE US OF INDIFFERENCE.

IF I GO IN, DISREGARDING THE KING, EXILE IN THE WOODS WILL BE MY LOT.

ALL ELSE SAVE DISREGARD TO THE KING IS TRIFLE.

BE IT BREAKING THE RULE, BE IT DEATH IN THE FOREST, IT IS BETTER TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE IN DOING ONE'S DUTY.

"HAVING MADE UP HIS MIND, ARJUNA ENTERED THE CHAMBER...

"...TALKED WITH YUDHISHTHIRA AND COMING OUT WITH HIS BOW...

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THE PANDAVAS IN EXILE
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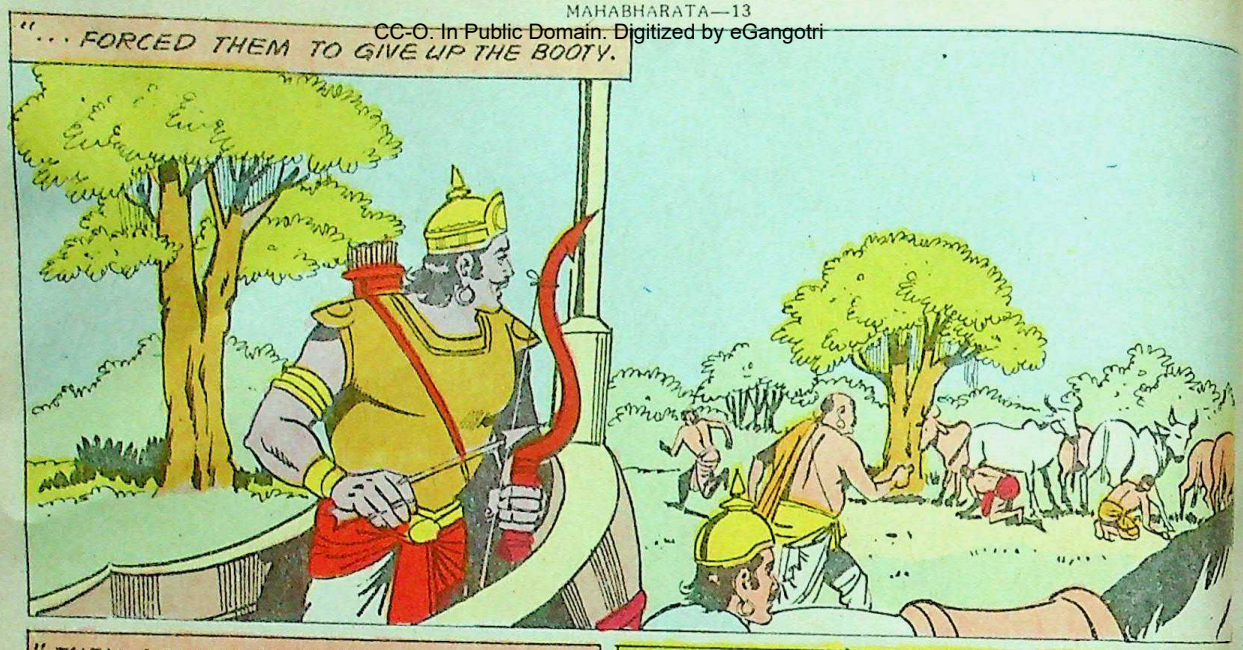

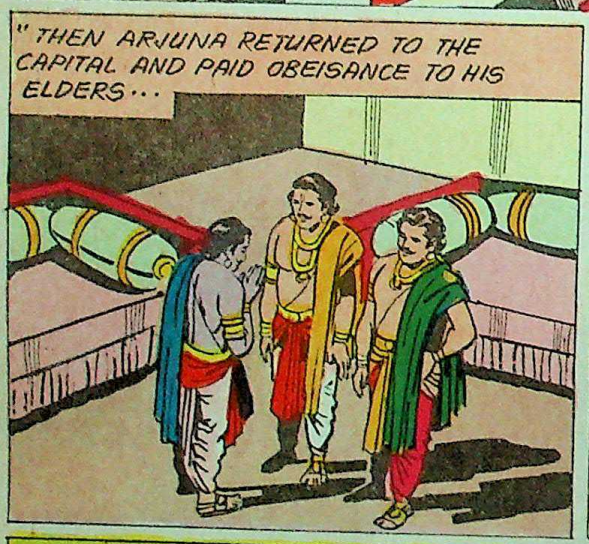

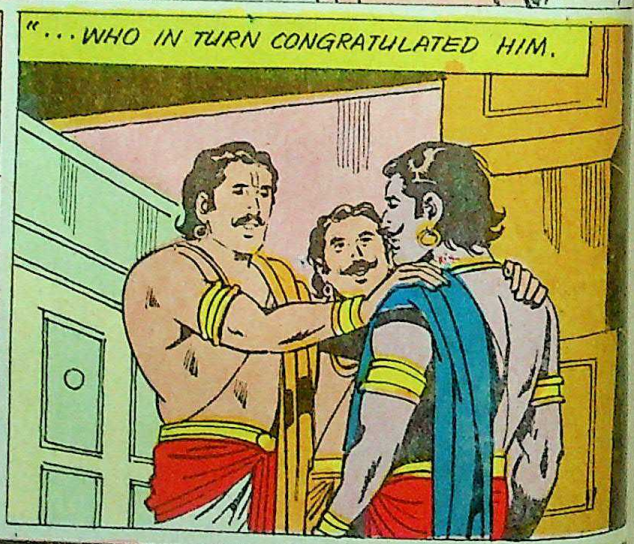

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IT IS THE ELDER BROTHER WHO HAS NO SANCTION TO GO IN WHERE THE YOUNGER ONE IS WITH HIS WIFE.

"ARJUNA REPLIED:

I HAVE HEARD YOU SAY THAT DHARMA IS NOT TO BE OBSERVED WITH PREVARICATION. I CANNOT WAVER FROM TRUTH. I SAY THIS UNDER THE OATH OF MY WEAPONS.

"AND ARJUNA PROCEEDED TO THE FOREST ACCOMPANIED BY BRAHMANAS WHO HAD MASTERED THE VEDAS, MUSICIANS, ASCETICS AND BARDS SINGING OF ANCIENT TALES.

THEY JOURNEYED ON ACROSS THE LAKES AND INTO THE FORESTS TILL THEY REACHED THE SOURCE OF THE GANGA. AND THERE, O MONARCH, THE MIGHTY HERO DECIDED TO DWELL.

THUS ENDS THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF OUR RENDERING OF VAISHAMPAYANA'S RECITAL OF VYASA'S IMMORTAL ITIHASA THE **MAHABHARATA**.

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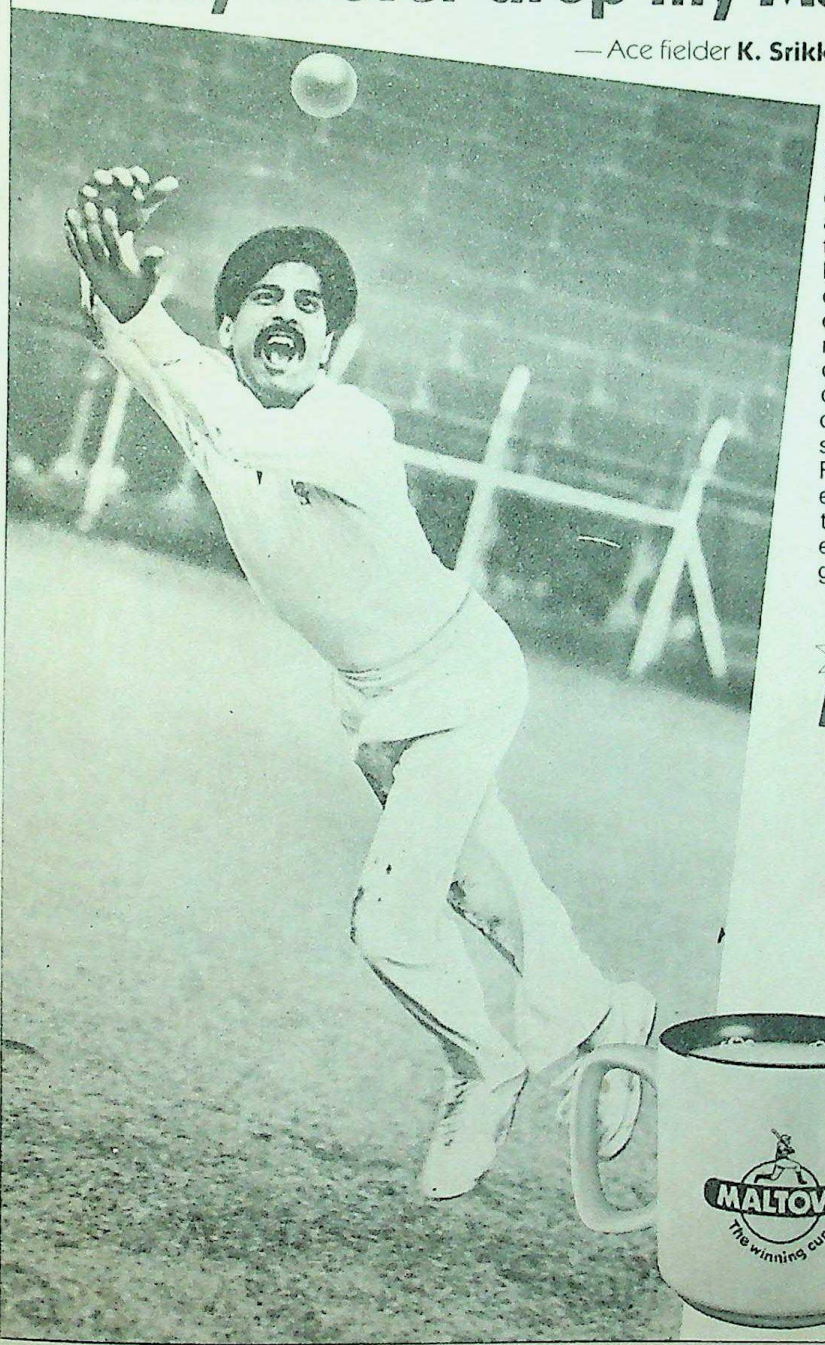

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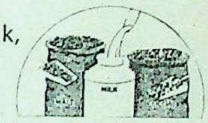

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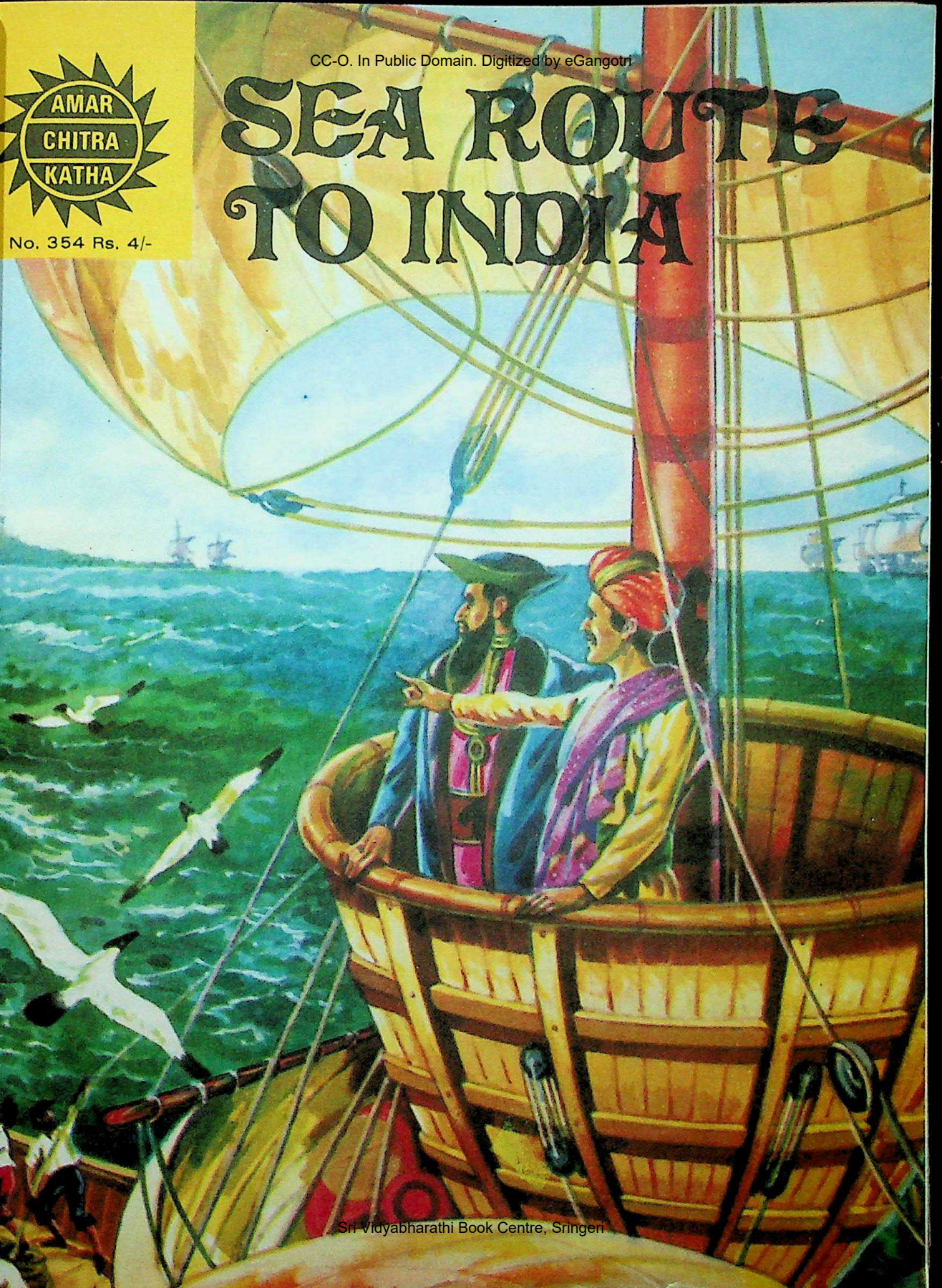
SEA ROUTE TO INDIA



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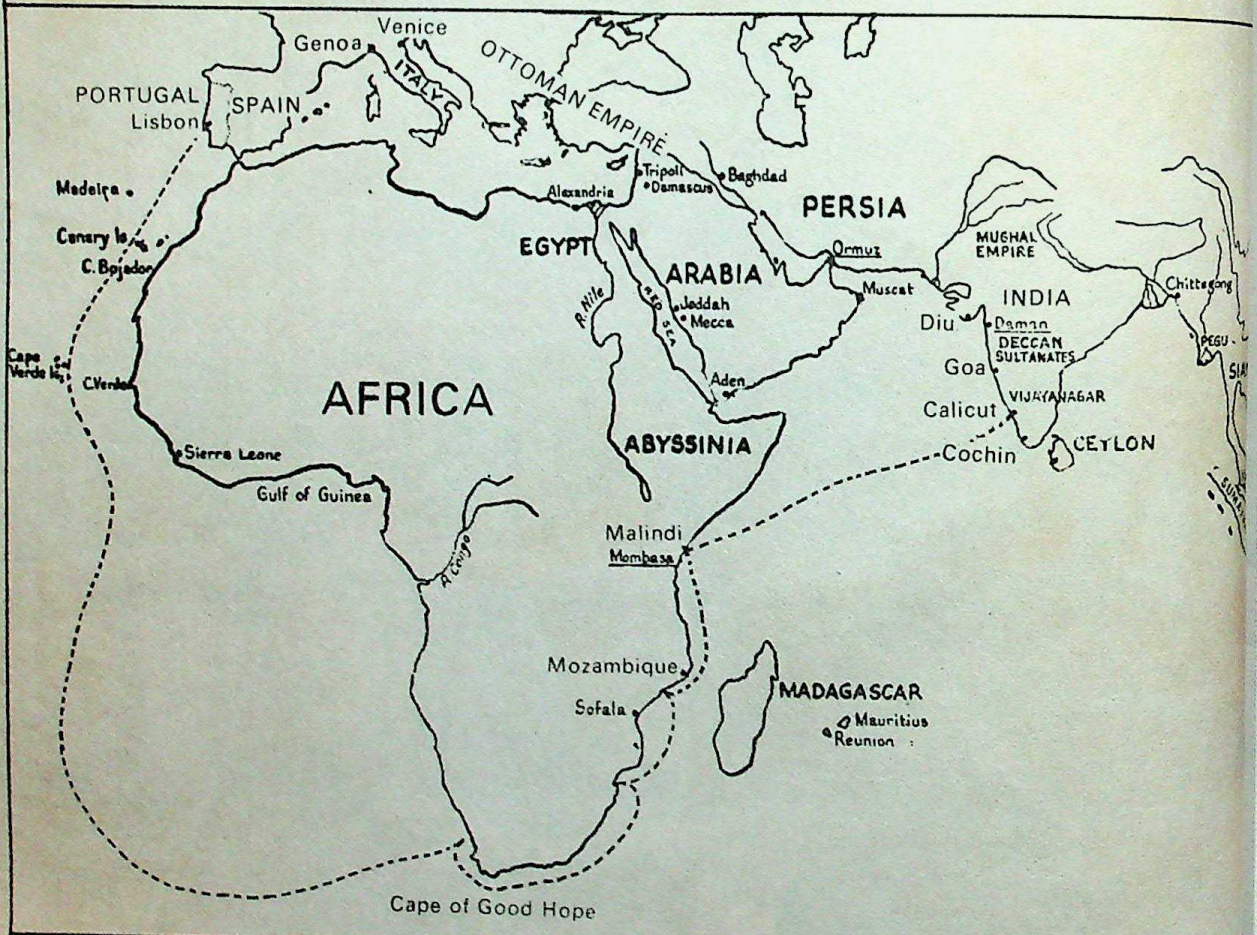

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No. 354 April 1, 1986

Published by H.G. Mirchandani for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd., Mahalaxmi Chambers, 22, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Bombay 400 026 and printed by him at IBH Printers, Marol Naka, Mathuradas Vissanji Road, Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

Distributors in U.S.A: Admans Enterprises Inc. 1123 Broadway Suite 1010, New York N.Y 10010

Subscriptions : (In India only)

Rs. 48/- for 12 issues and Rs. 96/- for 24 issues. (Add Rs. 8/- for outstation cheques). Sole Authorised Agency for Subscriptions : Partha Books Division, Nav Prabhat Chambers, Ranade Road, Dadar, Bombay 400 028.

Editor: ANANT PAI

Associate Editor: YAGYA SHARMA Material provided by: DR. N BENJAMIN Script: H. ATMARAM

Artworks: BAPU PATIL Art Consultant: RAM WAEERKAR

Production: GOVIND KOTWANI

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Sea Route to India

THREE TRADE ROUTES, CONNECTING THE EAST WITH THE WEST, MET AT CONSTANTINOPLE* MAKING IT THE MAJOR TRADE CENTRE OF THE TIMES. ARAB MERCHANTS BROUGHT MERCHANDISE FROM INDIA AND THE FAR EAST AND SOLD IT TO EUROPEAN TRADERS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

FROM CONSTANTINOPLE THESE TRADERS TOOK THE MERCHANDISE BY SHIPS TO VENICE...

...AND FROM THERE TO OTHER PARTS OF EUROPE.

SO WHEN CONSTANTINOPLE WAS TAKEN BY THE TURKS, IN 1453, FREE PASSAGE OF INDIAN GOODS WAS NO LONGER POSSIBLE.

THE TURKS DEMAND EXORBITANT TAXES!

AND EVEN IF WE PAY, MARAUDERS ATTACK US ON LAND, AND PIRATES ON THE SEA!

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* NOW ISTANBUL

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EUROPEANS WERE MAKING EFFORTS TO DISCOVER A SEA ROUTE TO INDIA. PRINCE HENRY, "THE NAVIGATOR" (1420-1460) OF PORTUGAL HAD ALREADY ORGANIZED MANY EXPEDITIONS SOUTHWARDS, AND INSPIRED NEW DISCOVERIES BY FOUNDING A SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY AND NAVIGATION.

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, WE ARE STILL ON THE AFRICAN COAST, SEÑOR PERESTRELLO! SLAVES ARE ALL THAT WE HAVE GOT OUT OF IT! WE HAVE TO REACH THE INDIES!

BUT CAN WE REACH THE INDIES BY GOING SOUTH?

I AM SURE WE CAN!

PRINCE HENRY ENCOURAGED HIS MEN TO IMPROVE THE DESIGNS OF THE SHIPS AND THE TOOLS FOR NAVIGATION.

AFTER PRINCE HENRY, KING JOHN II OF PORTUGAL TOOK UP THE UNFINISHED TASK.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR NEW SHIP, BARTOLOMEU?

IT IS A WONDER INDEED, SIRE. IT HOLDS THRICE AS MUCH AS THE GALLEYS OF OLD!

FIND A ROUTE TO INDIA, DIAZ! THAT WILL BE OUR GREATEST VICTORY. IT WILL TURN THE TURKISH VICTORIES TO SALT!

I WILL TRY, SIRE.

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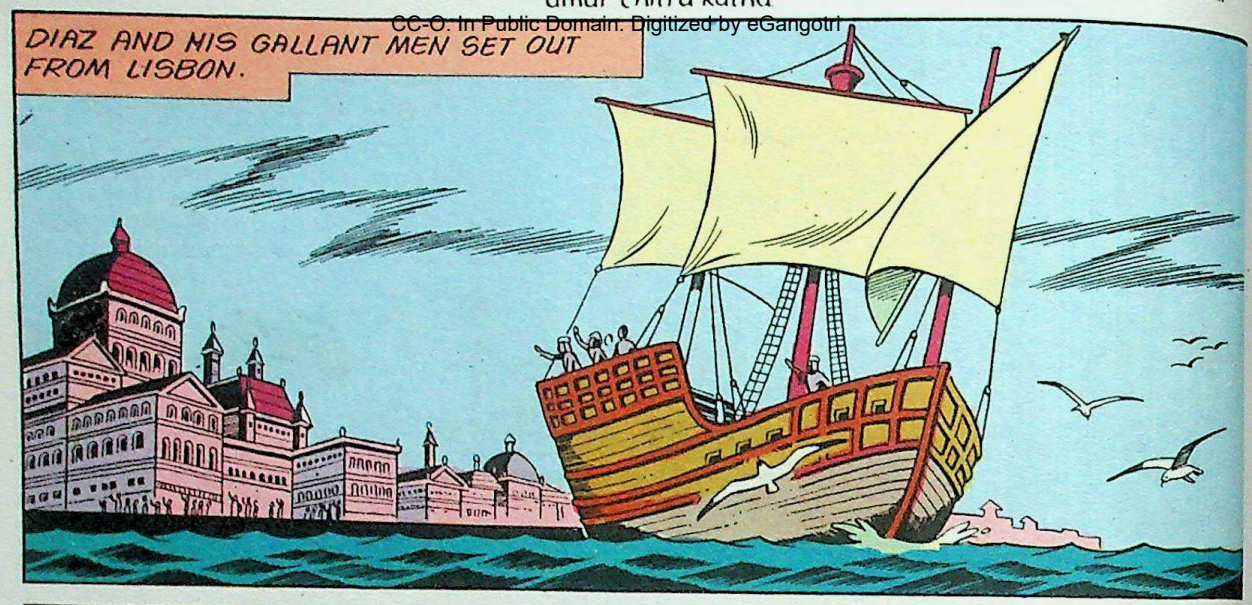

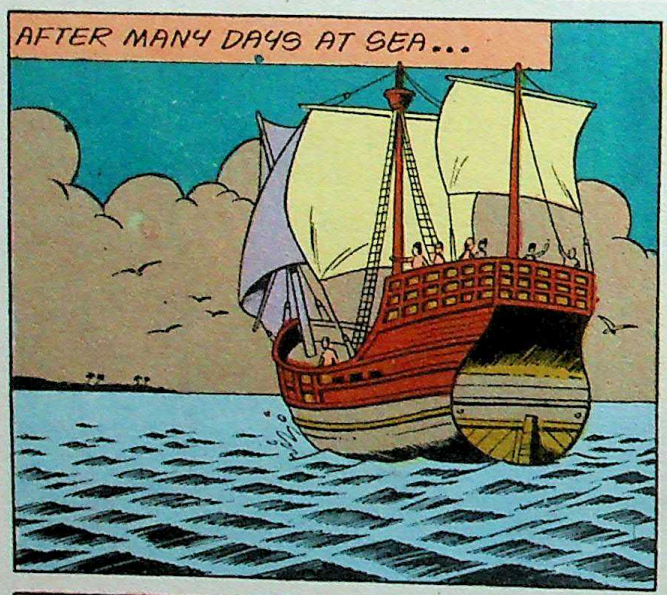

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BUT AS THEY PROCEEDED THEY WERE CAUGHT IN VIOLENT STORMS.

WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH TOSSING ABOUT, CAP'N. LET'S TURN BACK — OR NONE WILL RETURN ALIVE.

TURN BACK?

HE'S RIGHT. THE DISCOVERY OF THIS ROUTE SHOULD REACH THE EARS OF KING JOHN AND NOT SINK WITH US IN A STORM. THE INDIES CAN WAIT.

ON THE WAY BACK—

THERE! THE SOUTHERN-MOST TIP OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. I WILL NAME IT THE CAPE OF STORMS!

DIAZ FINALLY RETURNED TO LISBON.

THERE IS INDEED A PASSAGE TO INDIA, SIRE, ONCE YOU GO ROUND THE CAPE OF STORMS.

CAPE OF STORMS? NO! BEYOND IT LIES HOPE FOR OUR NATION.

SO IT SHALL BE CALLED THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE!

BUT FAMINE IN THE LAND AND HIS ILL HEALTH DID NOT PERMIT KING JOHN TO PROCEED FURTHER TO OPEN UP THE SEA PASSAGE. IN THE MEANTIME...

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...CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, A SPANISH SAILOR HAD ACCESS TO THE SECRET MAPS AND CHARTS PREPARED BY PRINCE HENRY.

AMONG THE PAPERS, HE CAME ACROSS THE WRITINGS OF PAOLO TOSCANELLI, A LEARNED MAP-MAKER.

YES. WHAT PAOLO WRITES MAKES SENSE. THE EARTH IS ROUND. YOU COULD REACH A PLACE IN THE EAST BY GOING WEST— BY GOING ROUND THE WORLD!

COLUMBUS APPROACHED KING JOHN OF PORTUGAL.

THE DIRECT WAY TO INDIA LIES WEST, SIRE. GIVE ME A CHANCE AND I SHALL BRING IT TO YOU ON A PLATTER!

I AM NOT SO SURE, COLUMBUS. OUR COUNCIL HAS EXAMINED THE PROPOSAL. IT IS NOT WORTH THE RISK.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL HAD HIS OWN PLANS OF SENDING AN EXPEDITION VIA THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

MEANWHILE COLUMBUS TRIED TO INTEREST THE KINGS OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO LAUNCH AN EXPEDITION. FINALLY, HE SUCCEEDED WITH HIS OWN KING, FERDINAND OF SPAIN.

WE AGREE TO SUPPORT YOUR EXPEDITION, COLUMBUS. FIT OUT YOUR SHIPS AND START ON YOUR VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY FOR THE GLORY OF SPAIN!

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amar chitra katha
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AFTER MANY WEEKS AT SEA —

LAND AHOY!

LAND!

COLUMBUS BELIEVED HE HAD LANDED IN THE INDIES (AND HELD TO THIS VIEW TILL HIS DEATH). BUT THE TERRITORY HE HAD DISCOVERED WAS ACTUALLY WHAT WE KNOW TODAY AS THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS.

ANOTHER SAILOR WHO TRIED TO FIND A SEA ROUTE TO ASIA WAS JOHN CABBOT. HE WAS AIDED BY THE BRITISH MERCHANTS.

THE LAND HE DISCOVERED IN 1497 TURNED OUT TO BE NORTH AMERICA.

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EMMANUEL, WHO SUCCEEDED KING JOHN TO THE THRONE OF PORTUGAL IN 1485, IMMEDIATELY TOOK UP THE SEARCH FOR THE SEA ROUTE AROUND THE CAPE. HE GAVE THE TASK TO VASCO DA GAMA.

BARTOLOMEU DIAZ HAS FOUND THE WAY, VASCO. FOLLOW IN HIS WAKE AND BRING BACK THE PRIZE FOR PORTUGAL. SPICES FROM THE INDIES WILL MAKE US THE RICHEST IN ALL EUROPE.

FOR ME, A SAILOR, THERE IS THE THRILL OF ADVENTURE— SEEKING WHAT NONE ELSE HAS FOUND!

YOU WILL SERVE THE LORD, TOO, BY BRINGING THE HEATHENS UNDER HIS CHRISTIAN YOKE.

THE CATHOLIC NATIONS WERE EAGER TO CONVERT OTHERS TO THEIR RELIGION, EVEN BY FORCE. VASCO WAS AN ADVENTURER, BUT THE MISSIONARY ZEAL ALSO BURNED BRIGHT IN HIS BOSOM.

THE CREW RECEIVED BLESSINGS FROM THE CARDINAL...

...AND ENTERED THE SHIP IN PROCESSION.

VASCO DA GAMA SET SAIL IN JULY 1497 WITH FOUR SHIPS AND 170 MEN.

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WHEN THEY WERE A FEW WEEKS OUT AT SEA, ILLNESS STRUCK.

WATER! MY BODY IS ON FIRE!

SPOTS ALL OVER HIS BODY. IT IS THE DREADED SCOURGE, SCURVY! GOD SAVE US.

MANY LIVES WERE LOST.

AS THEY ROUNDED THE CAPE THEY WERE BUFFETED BY A STORM. THE SAILORS WERE DISHEARTENED.

WE WILL TURN BACK!

TURN BACK? THAT IS MUTINY! ANYONE WHO SAYS THAT AGAIN WILL BE THROWN OVERBOARD!

VASCO DA GAMA WAS ABLE TO CONTROL HIS MEN.

AT MELINDE, OFF THE EAST COAST OF AFRICA, VASCO DA GAMA SOUGHT THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE RULING CHIEF.

WE WISH TO SAIL EAST, TO INDIA.

I KNOW A SAILOR FROM THAT LAND WHO WILL GUIDE YOU TO INDIA.

THUS VASCO DA GAMA WAS ABLE TO SECURE THE SERVICE OF A PILOT.

HAVE YOU SAILED OFTEN IN THESE WATERS? DO KNOW THEM WELL?

CERTAINLY. LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND! HUNDREDS OF SHIPS SAIL FROM HERE TO INDIA, LANKA AND THE ISLANDS BEYOND.

WITH THE GUIDANCE OF THE EXPERIENCED PILOT, DA GAMA'S FLEET SOON TOUCHED INDIAN SHORES.

THERE LIES INDIA! WE HAVE REACHED THE PORT OF KOZHIKODE*

KOZHIKODE? IS THAT A BIG CITY? LIKE LISBON?

IT WAS THE YEAR 1498.

* CALICUT

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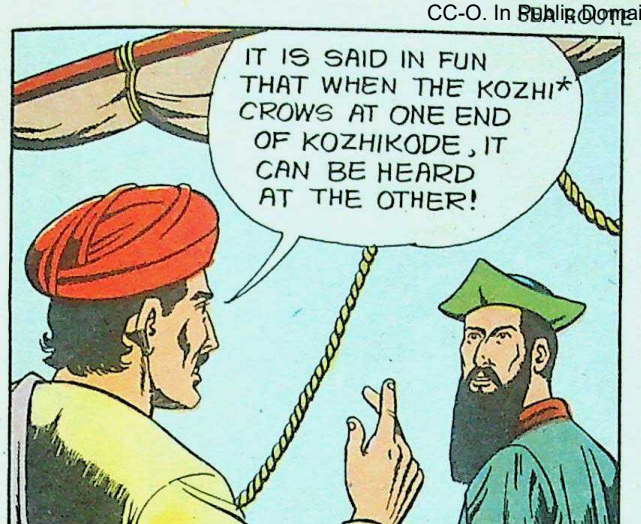

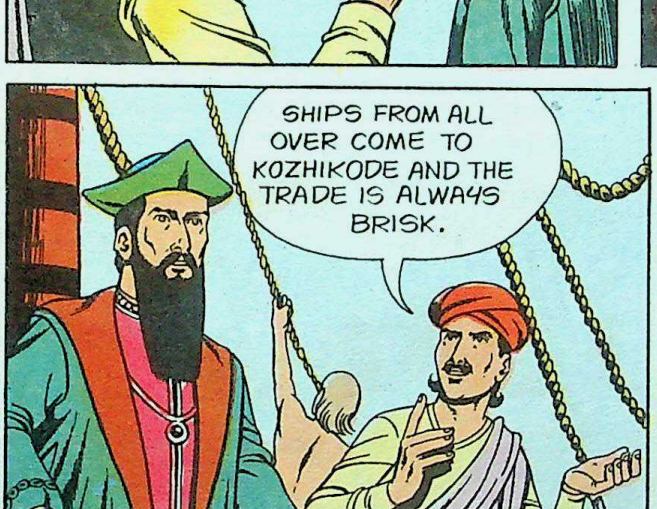

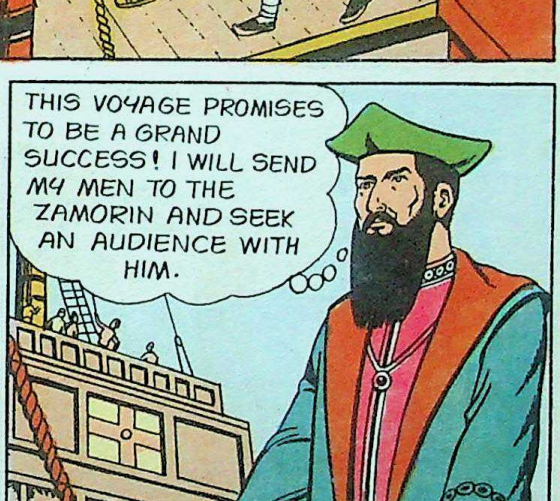

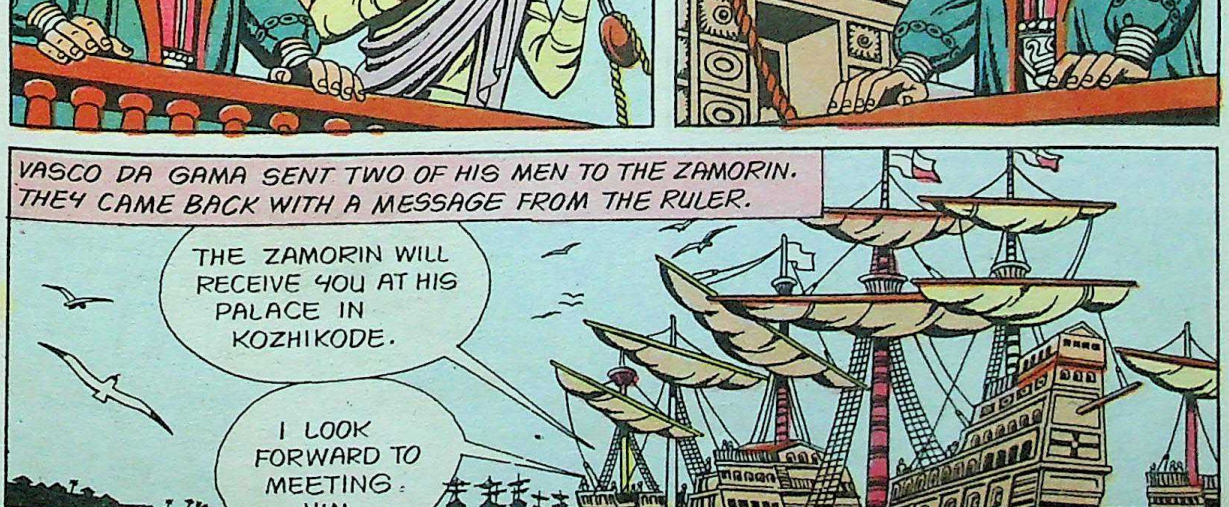

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ON THE SUGGESTION OF THE ZAMORIN, VASCO DA GAMA SAILED FOR PANTALAYINI WHERE HE WAS RECEIVED BY THE KOTWAL.

THE ZAMORIN SENDS HIS COMPLIMENTS. WORTHY SIRS, AND BIDS YOU ACCEPT HIS GIFTS!

VASCO DA GAMA AND HIS PARTY LEFT FOR THE ZAMORIN'S PALACE.

THEY WILL NOT BELIEVE US IF WE TELL THEM AT HOME ABOUT THE GRAND WELCOME WE HAVE RECEIVED!

THE PROCESSION APPROACHED A RIVER. VASCO DA GAMA WAS CARRIED TO A WAITING BOAT.

PART OF HIS JOURNEY TO THE PALACE WAS BY BOAT...

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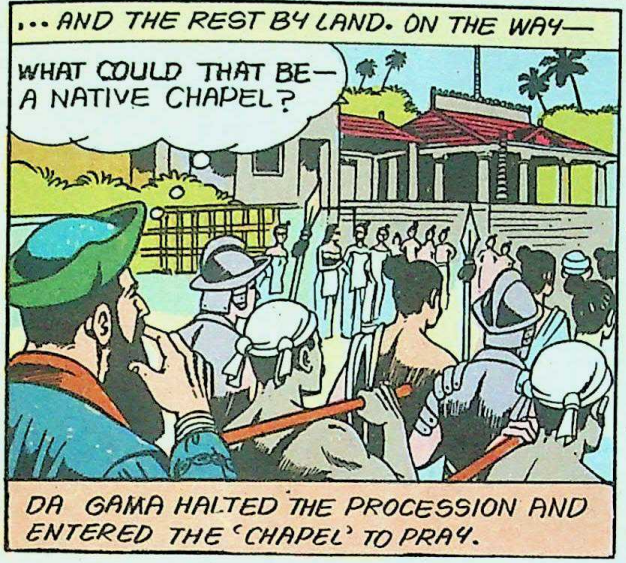

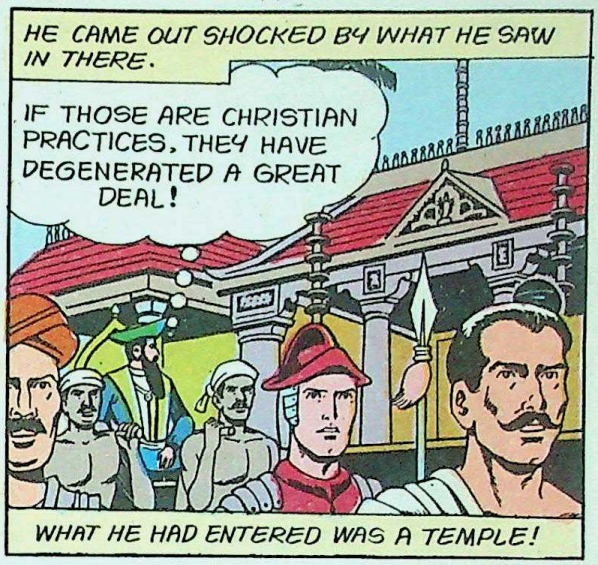

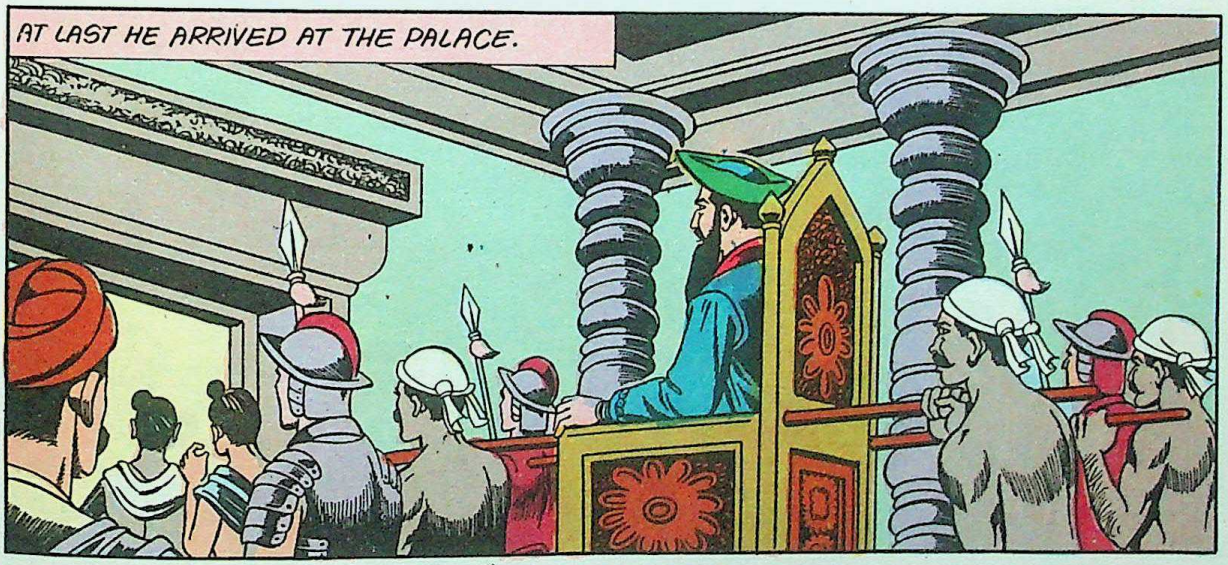

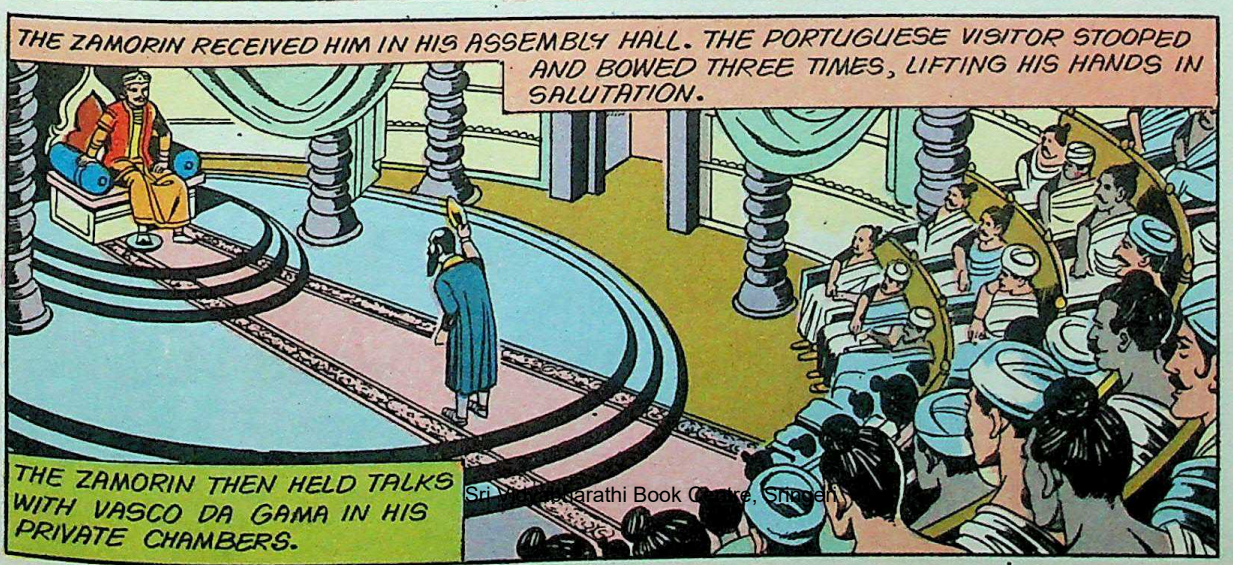

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LATER DA GAMA LEFT FOR HIS LODGINGS.

THE ARABS IN KOZHIKODE WHO CONTROLLED FOREIGN TRADE RESENTED THE COMING OF THE PORTUGUESE.

THESE NEWCOMERS COULD GIVE US STIFF COMPETITION.

WE MUST NOT ALLOW THEM TO TRADE HERE.

THE NEXT DAY VASCO DA GAMA SENT THE ZAMORIN SOME GIFTS.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE HAS SENT? HATS, CORALS, HONEY AND SUGAR!

NO SILVER? NO GOLD?

THE ARABS CALLED ON THE ZAMORIN.

THE GIFTS HE HAS BROUGHT ARE UNWORTHY OF THE KING WHO, HE SAYS, SENT HIM HERE AND OF THE KING TO WHOM THEY ARE OFFERED.

HE CANNOT BE AN ENVOY OF A KING. HE APPEARS TO BE A PIRATE.

I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN. I WILL TALK TO THE VISITOR AND ASK HIM TO PROVE HIS BONAFIDES.

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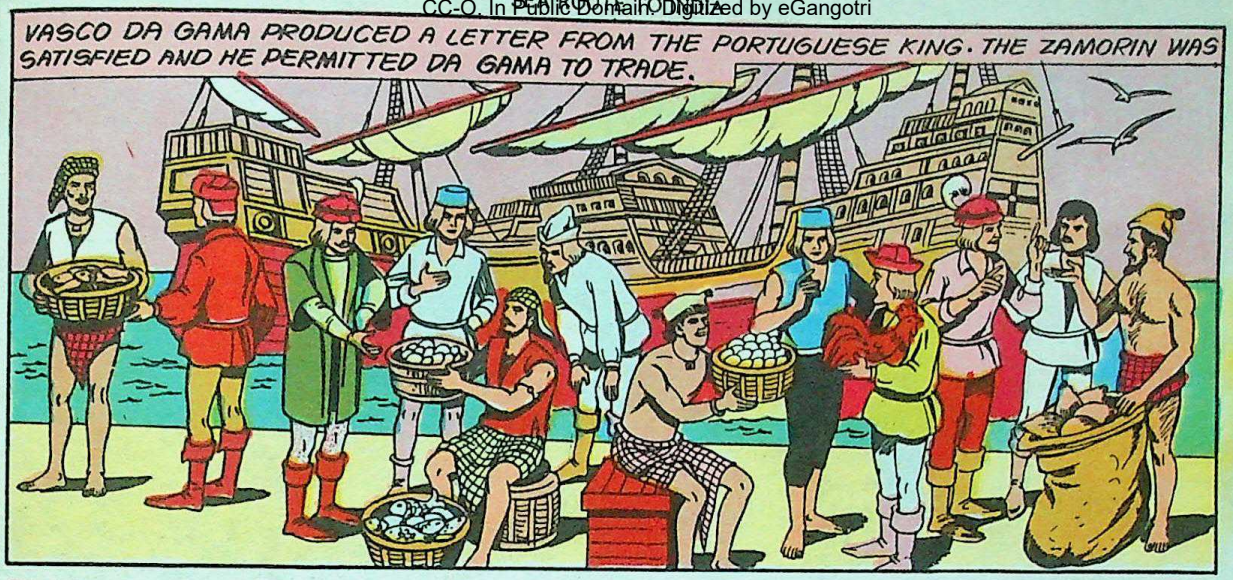

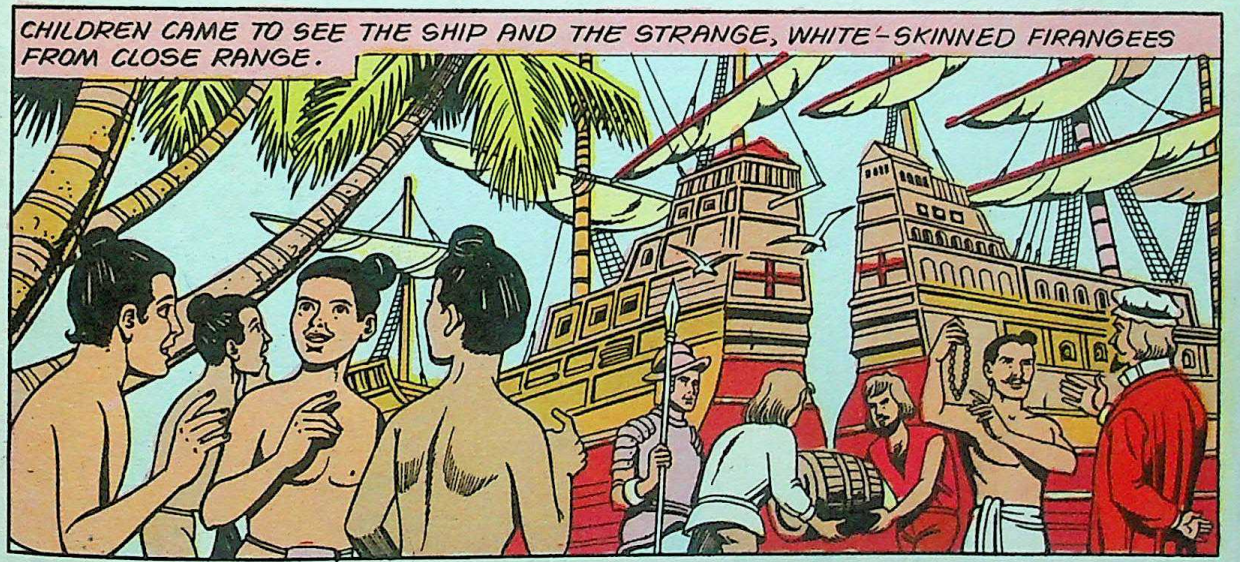

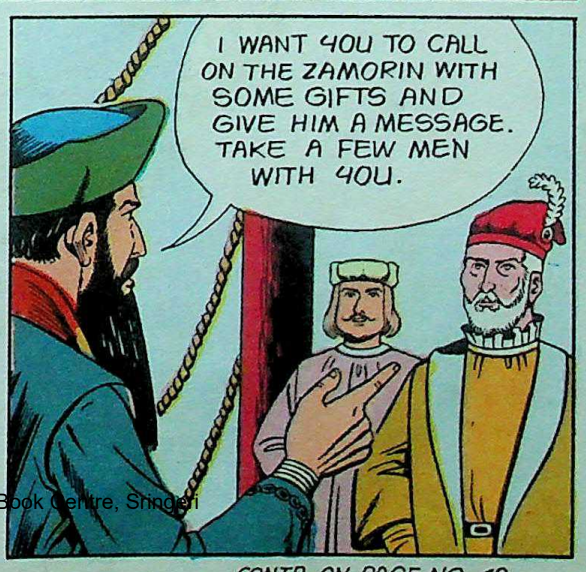

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"What's a white shoe cleaner got to do with winning the game?

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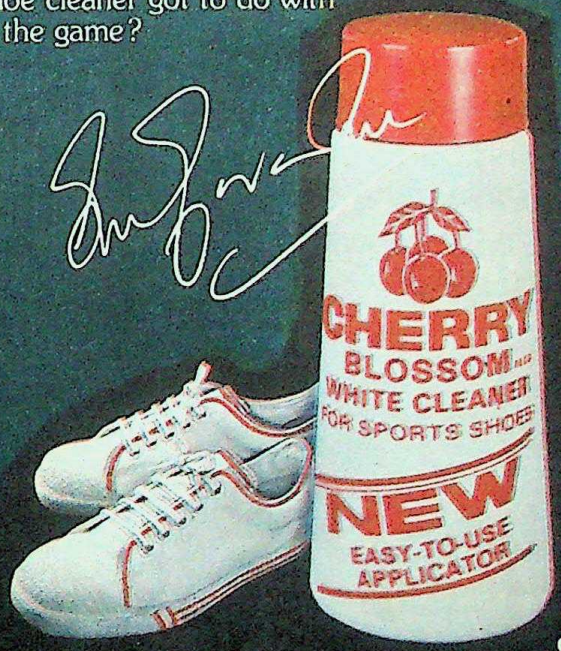
Let me tell you."

"Back in the sixties while playing a crucial college match I figured—when a sportsman goes into the field properly dressed and feeling confident, it's half the battle won!

Sounds far-fetched, does it? But it works for me. You know, no matter how much you practice, prepare, and perfect yourself for the game, if finally you don't come perfectly turned out for it—you just don't feel right.

So, next time you prepare for a game – make sure you're completely ready. Ready in body, game and attire. And ready to win!

Now, you tell me, what's a white shoe cleaner got to do with winning the game?



Be a sportsman... down to your feet!"

CHERRY WHITE CLEANER

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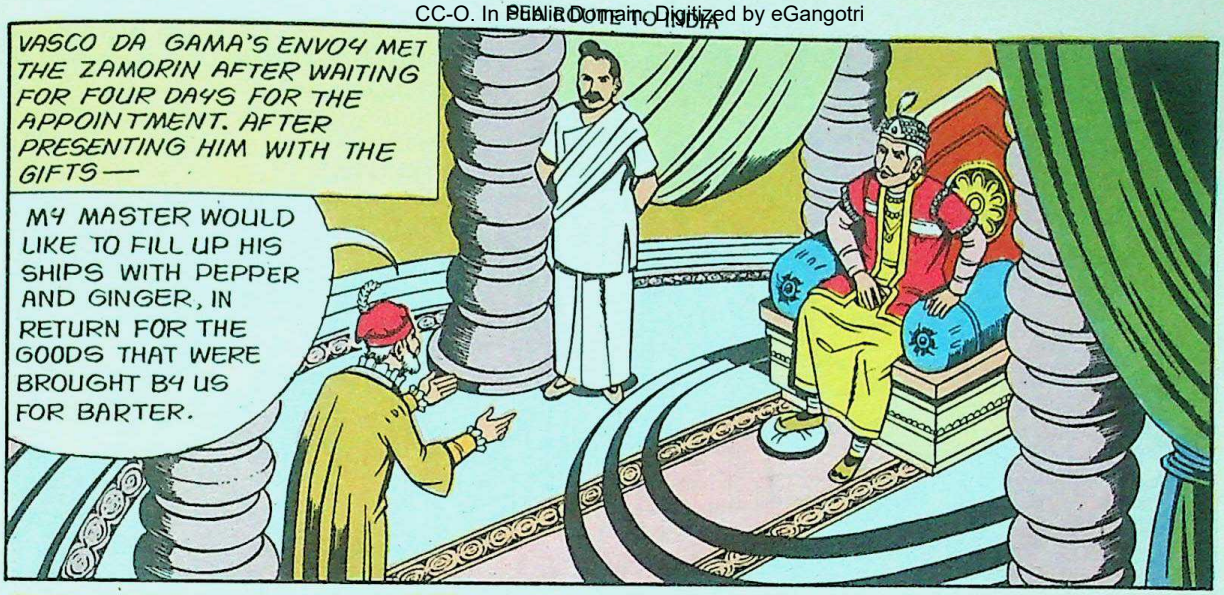

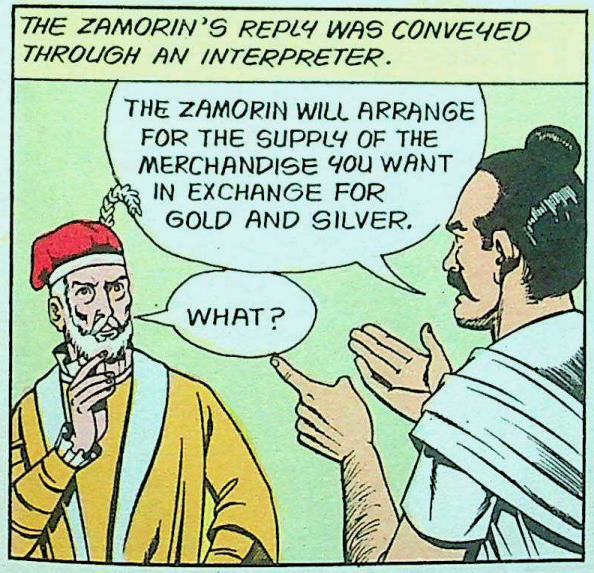

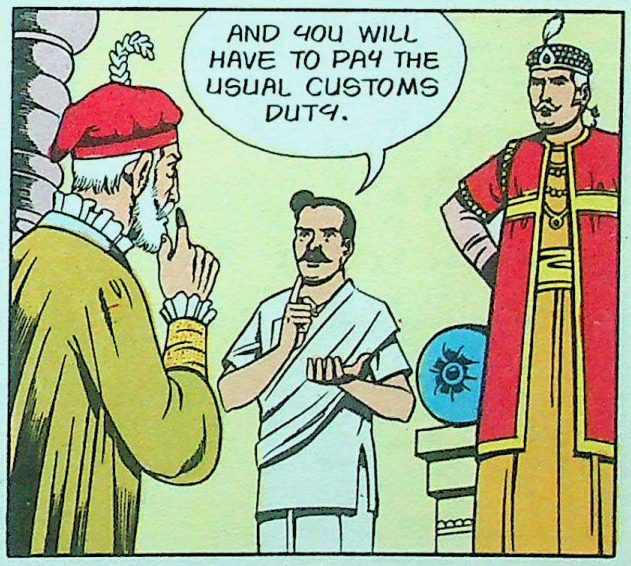

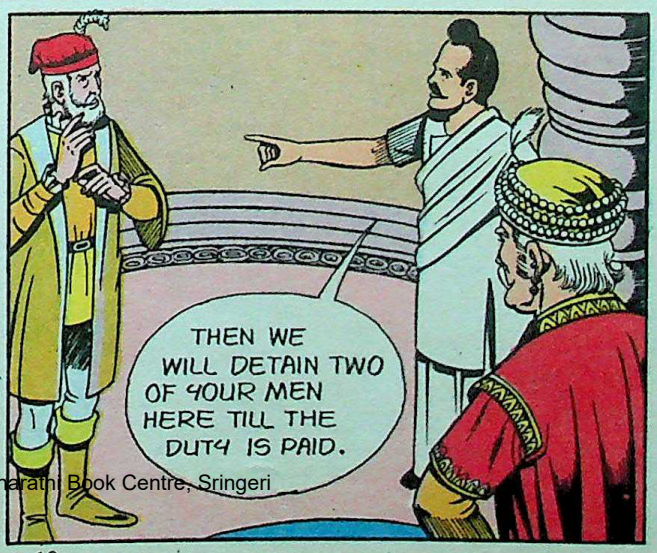

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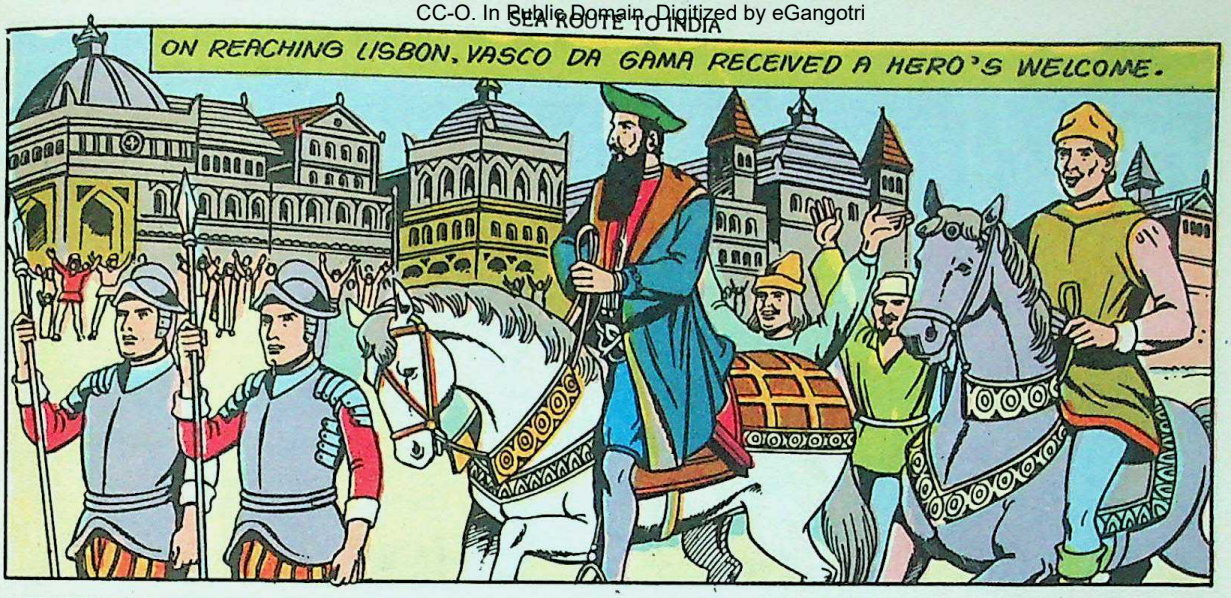

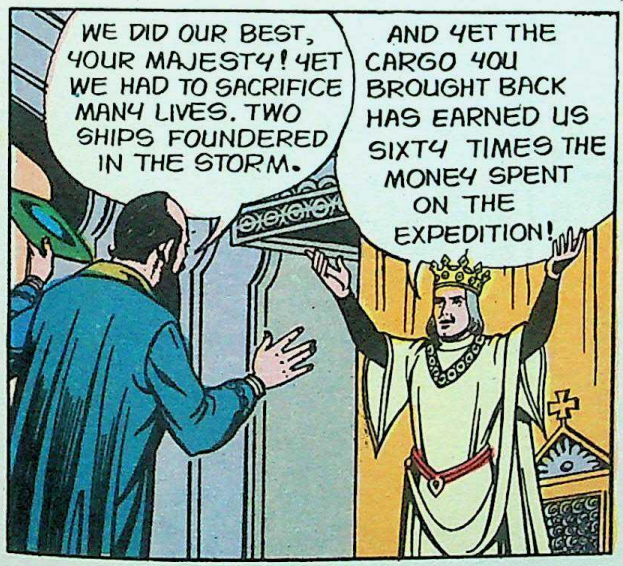

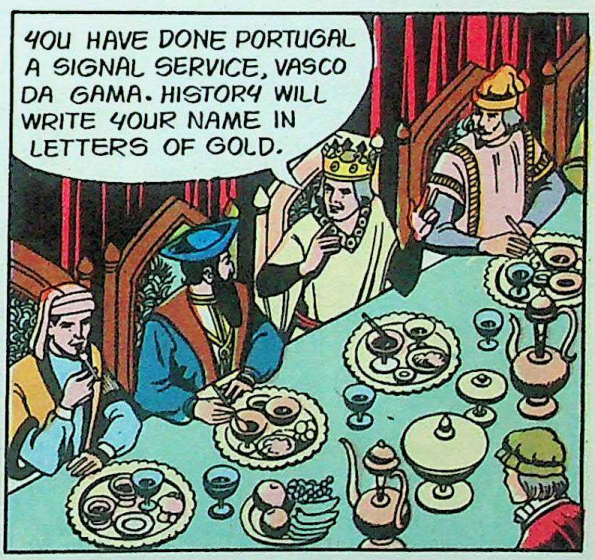

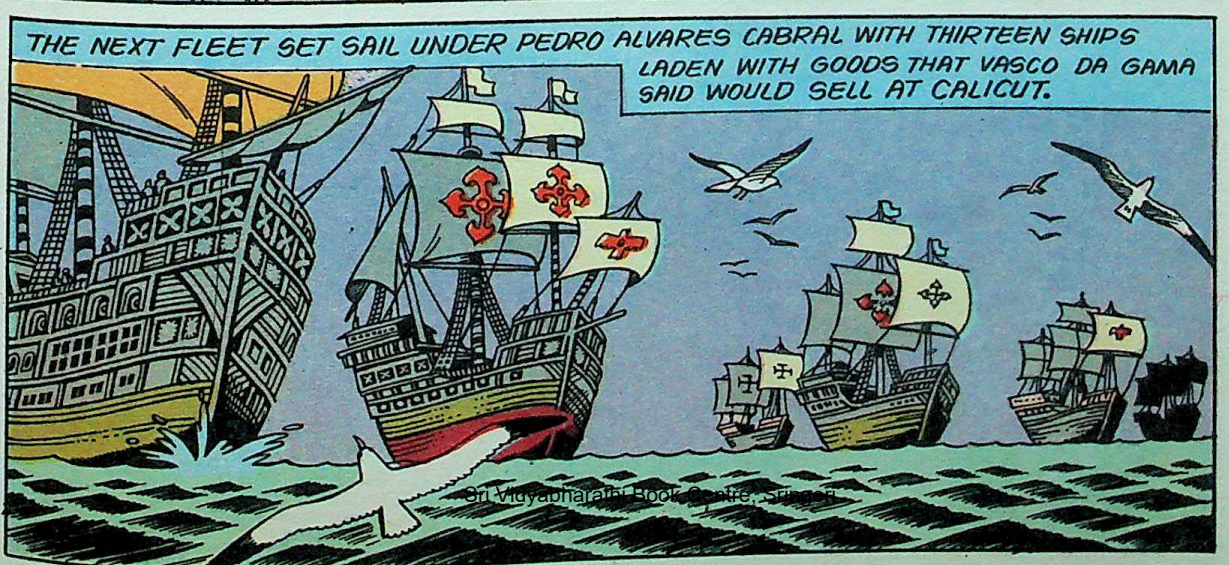

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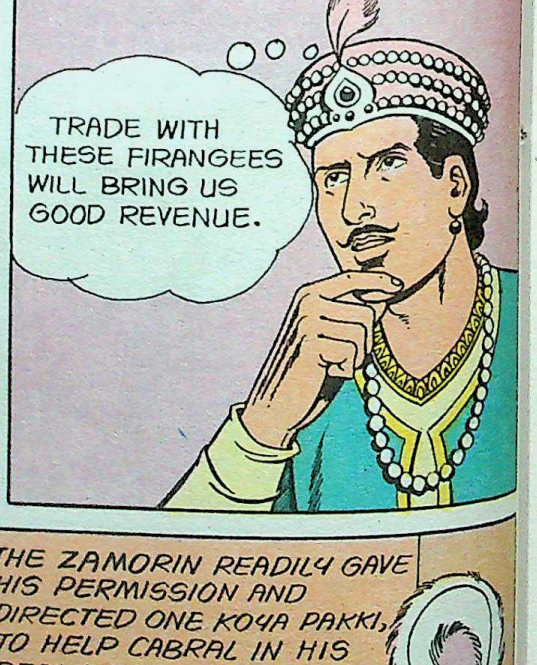
CABRAL WON OVER THE NEW ZAMORIN BY SETTING FREE THE MEN VASCO DA GAMA HAD TAKEN AS HOSTAGES. LATER CABRAL CALLED ON THE ZAMORIN.



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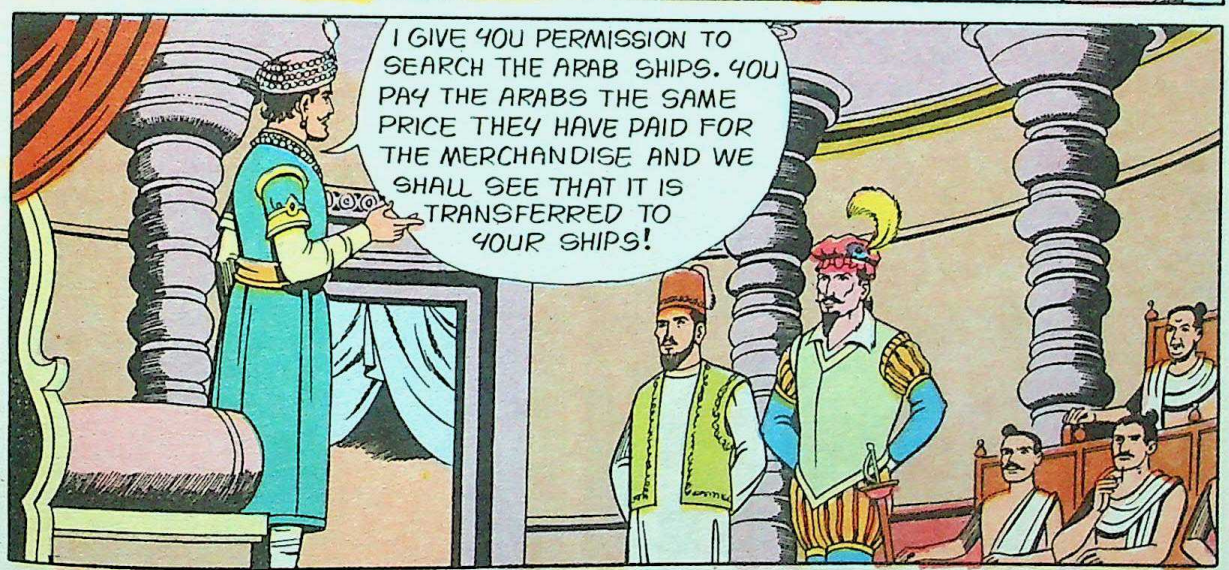

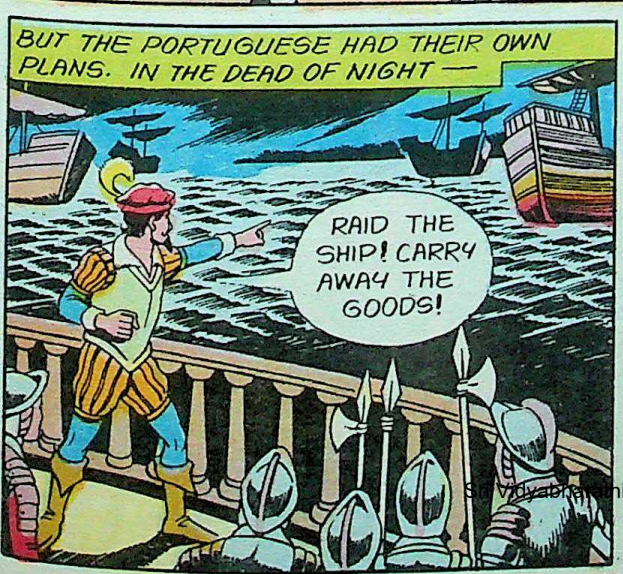

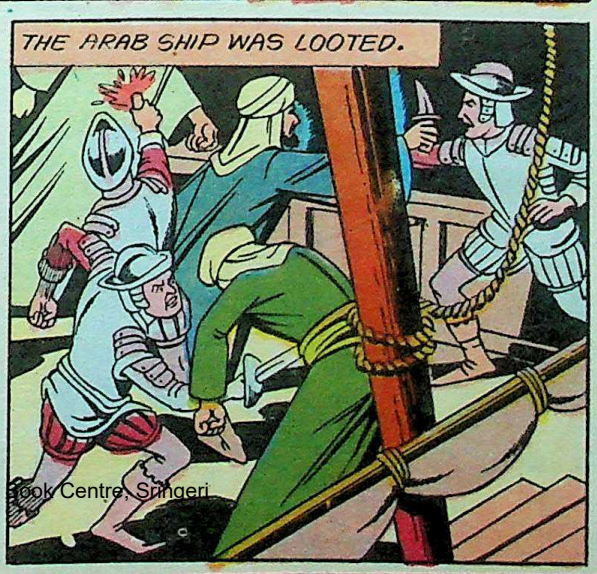

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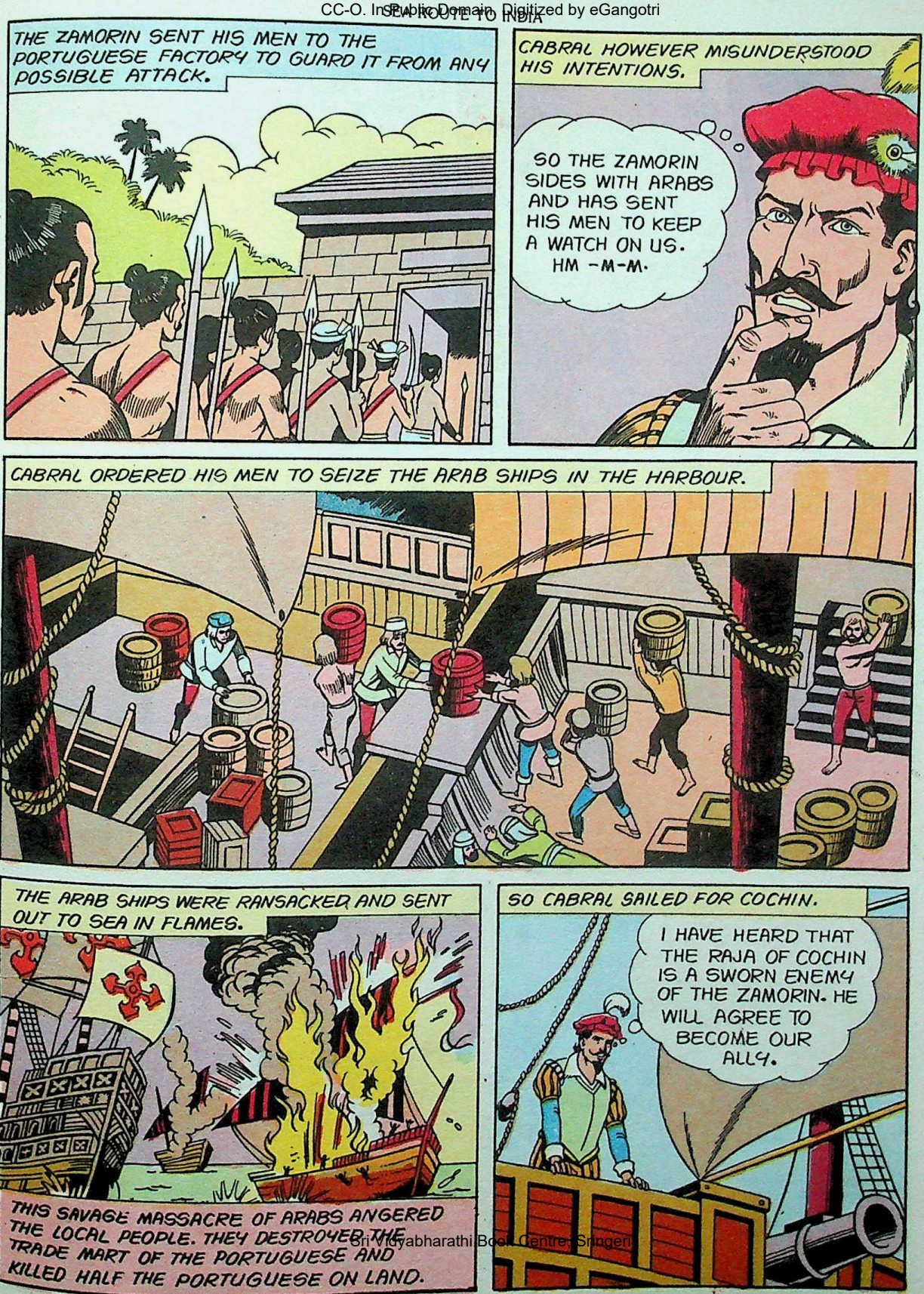

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PORTUGAL GAINED MUCH PROFIT FROM THE FIRST FEW VOYAGES. AND MUCH VALUABLE EXPERIENCE.

INDIA IS SO FAR AWAY, VASCO, AND OUR EXPEDITIONS SAIL ONLY ONCE A YEAR. WE CANNOT HOLD OUR POSITION THIS WAY.

WE SHOULD SEND OUR SOLDIERS TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE PORTS. WITH A GARRISON STATIONED THERE, OUR POSITION IS SECURE!

ON YOUR SECOND VOYAGE YOU SHOULD ALSO PUT AN END TO THE ARAB TRADE IN INDIA.

WITH A STRONG FLEET, THAT SHOULD EASILY BE DONE.

WILL OUR MEN BE SAFE?

INDEED, IF THERE ARE ENOUGH OF THEM! OUR WEAPONS ARE SUPERIOR AND WE COMMAND THE SEA. ON LAND WE CAN SUCCEED BY STRIKING TERROR AMONG THE NATIVES.

A POWERFUL FLEET WITH VASCO DA GAMA IN COMMAND SAILED IN 1502.

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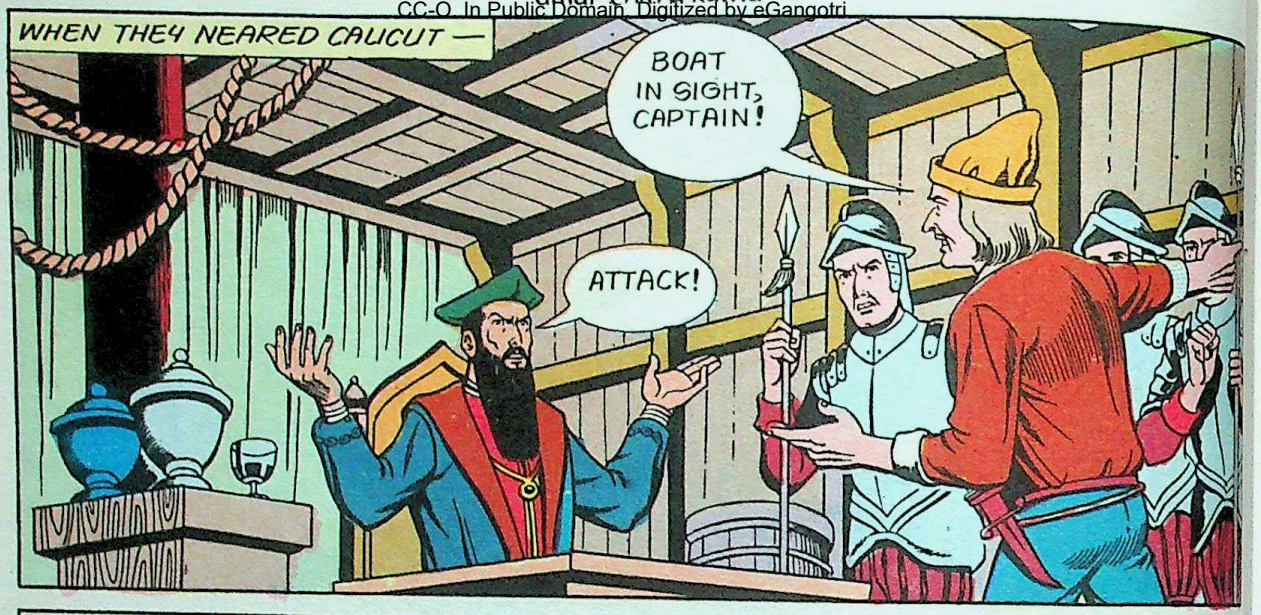

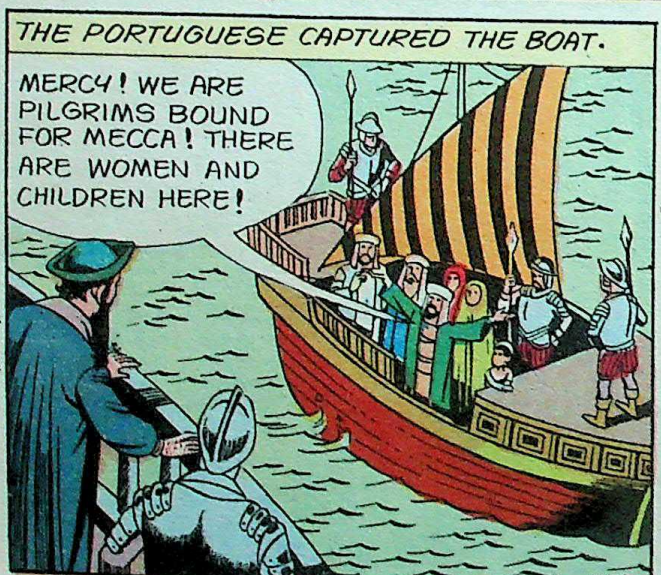

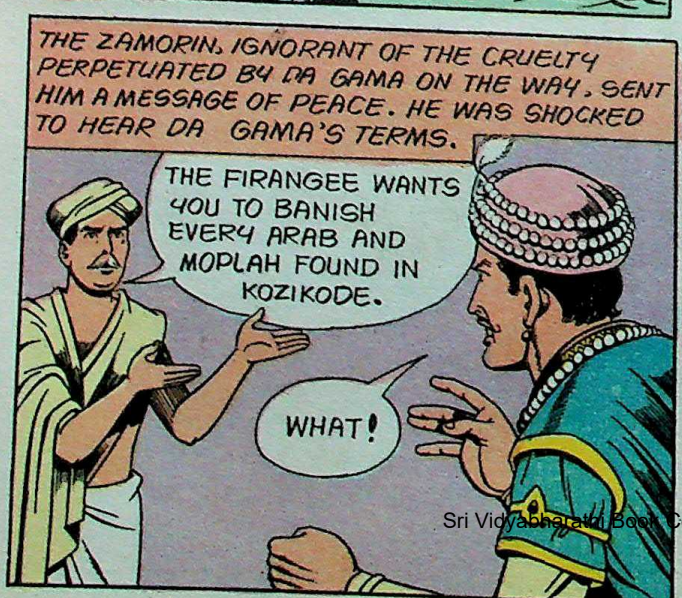

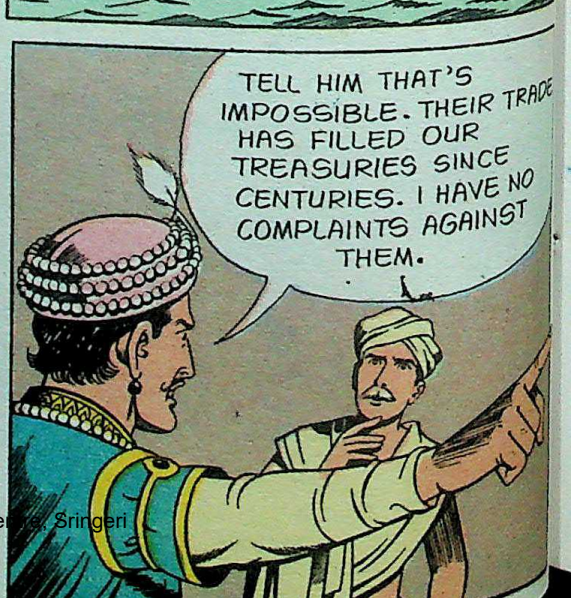

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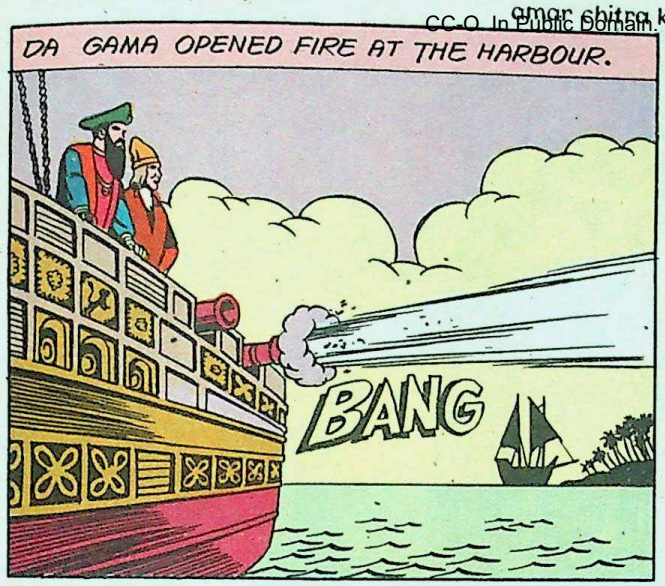

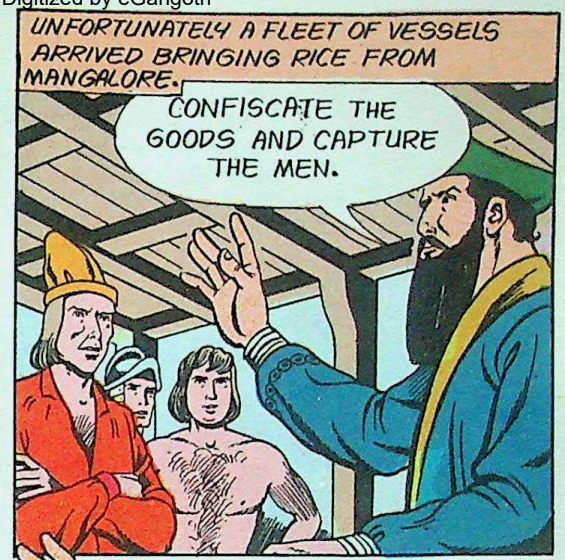

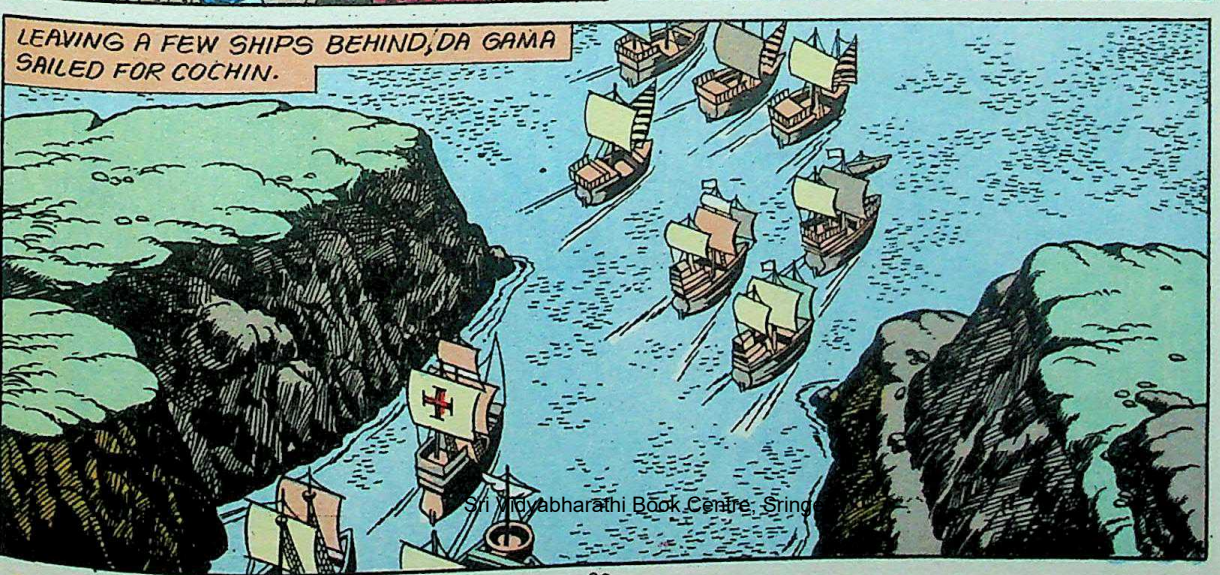

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AT THE PORTUGUESE FACTORY IN COCHIN

THE RAJA HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL. WE HAVE ENOUGH MERCHANDISE TO LOAD YOUR SHIPS.

GOOD.

VASCO DA GAMA KNEW THAT THE ZAMORIN WAS CERTAIN TO MOUNT AN ATTACK ON COCHIN. AS SOON AS HIS SHIPS WERE LOADED WITH MERCHANDISE HE LEFT FOR HOME LEAVING A GARRISON BEHIND TO ASSIST THE RAJA.

MEANWHILE AT CALICUT-

THE FIRANGEES ARE DANGEROUS PEOPLE. THEY SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD ON OUR LAND.

SEND A MESSAGE TO THE RAJA TO SURRENDER ALL THE FIRANGEES.

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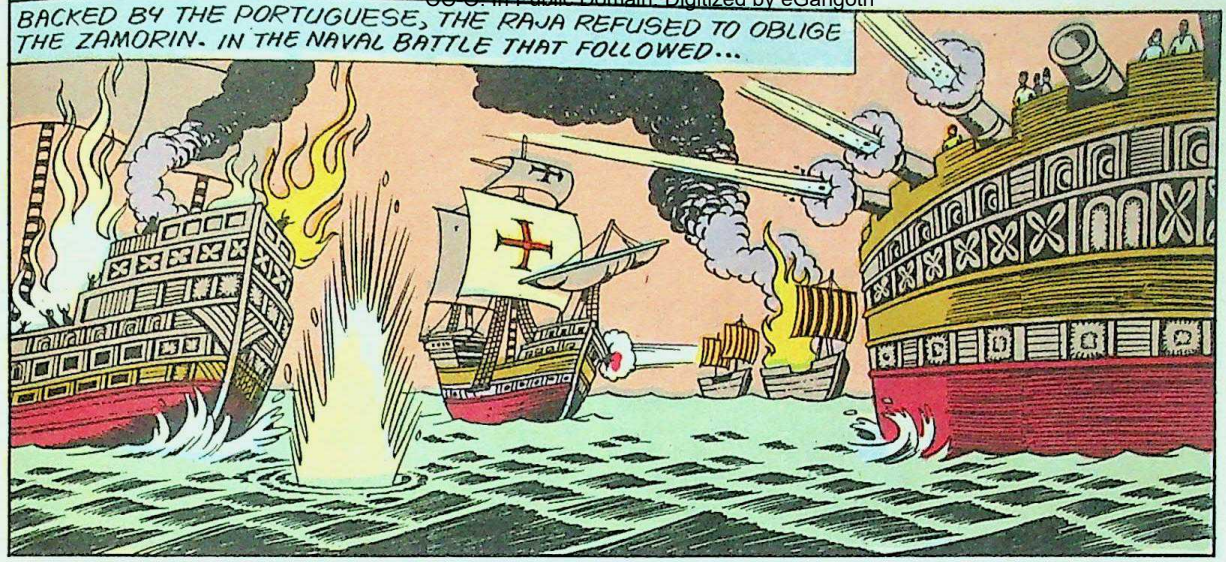

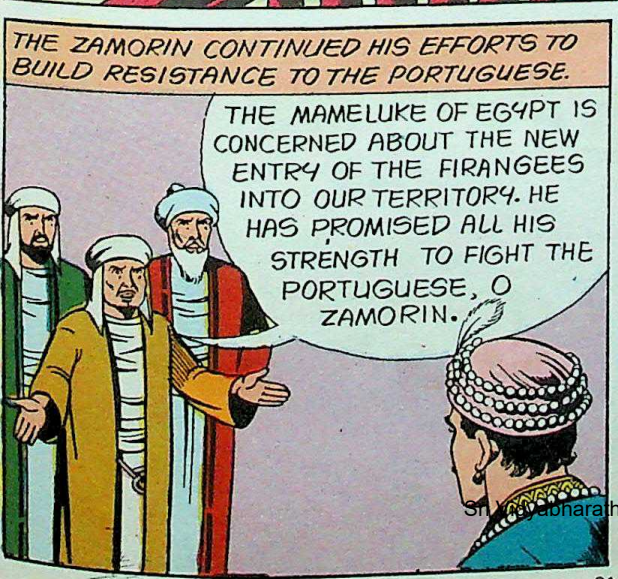

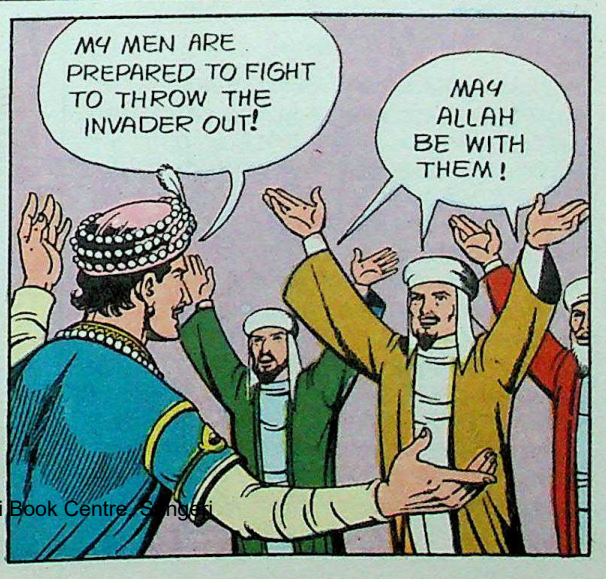

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A TERRIBLE SEA-BATTLE ENSUED.

THE PORTUGUESE WON A GREAT VICTORY.

THE PORTUGUESE DECIDED TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR GAINS. IN 1505 FRANCISCO DE ALMEIDA WAS APPOINTED THE FIRST VICEROY OF THE PORTUGUESE IN THE EAST. ALBUQUERQUE, THE NEXT GOVERNOR, BUILT UP A GREAT TERRITORIAL POWER IN INDIA.

GOA! WE'LL DOMINATE THE ENTIRE EAST IF WE ESTABLISH OUR AUTHORITY IN GOA!

ALBUQUERQUE CAPTURED GOA IN 1609. WITHIN A PERIOD OF 16 YEARS FROM VASCO DA GAMA'S LANDING IN CALICUT, PORTUGAL COMMANDED TOTAL SWAY OVER THE ENTIRE INDIAN OCEAN— A SWAY WHICH WAS TO LAST FOR A CENTURY! THEIR FORTS GUARDED MOZAMBIQUE, AT THE ENTRY TO THE INDIAN OCEAN; THEY CAPTURED THE MALAYAN ARCHIPELAGO, THE SOURCE OF SPICES; AND HELD ORMUZ AT THE OUTLET TO THE PERSIAN GULF. GOA HAD BEEN MADE THE CAPITAL OF PORTUGAL IN THE EAST. THE CONTROL OF THE SEA ROUTE, AND WITH IT THE TRADE IN ORIENTAL GOODS, HAD GONE TO THE EUROPEAN NATIONS.

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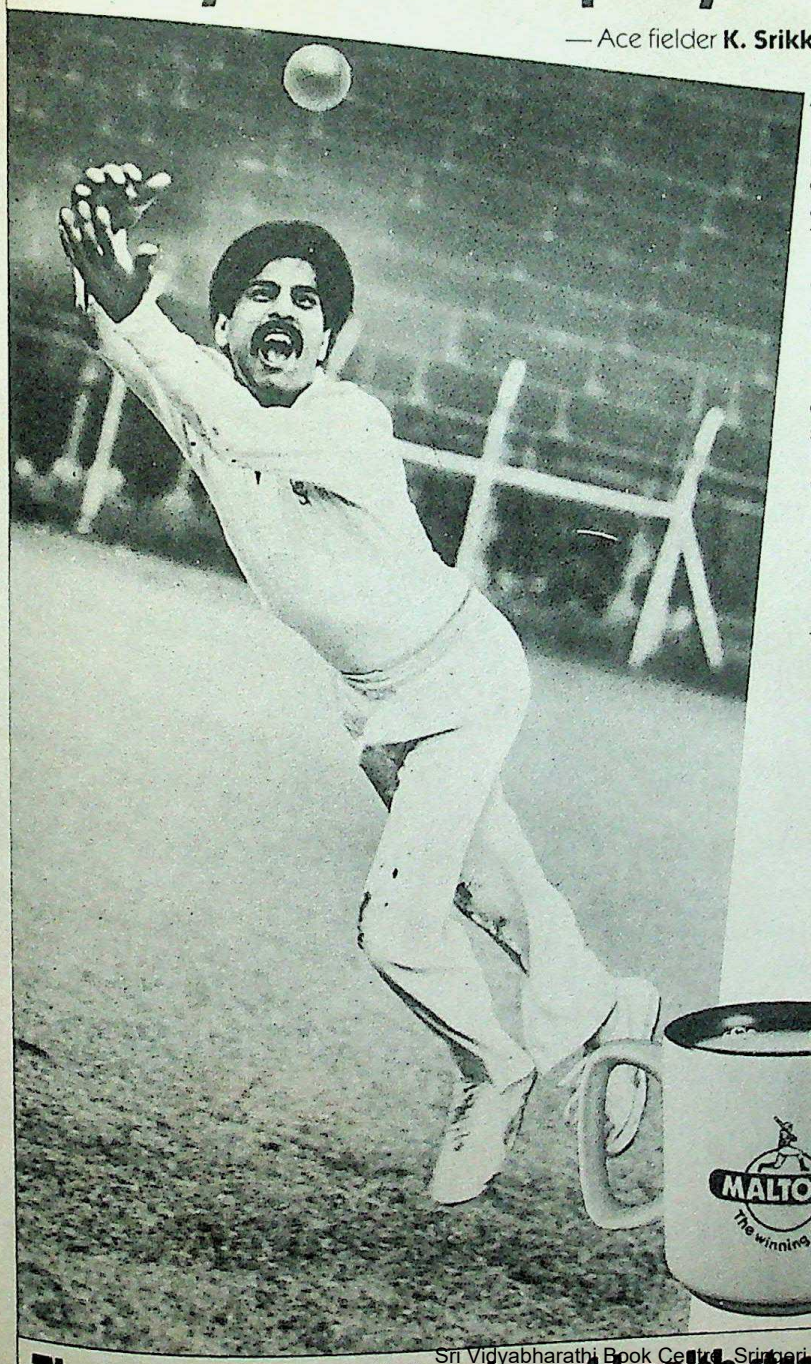

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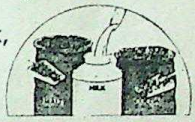

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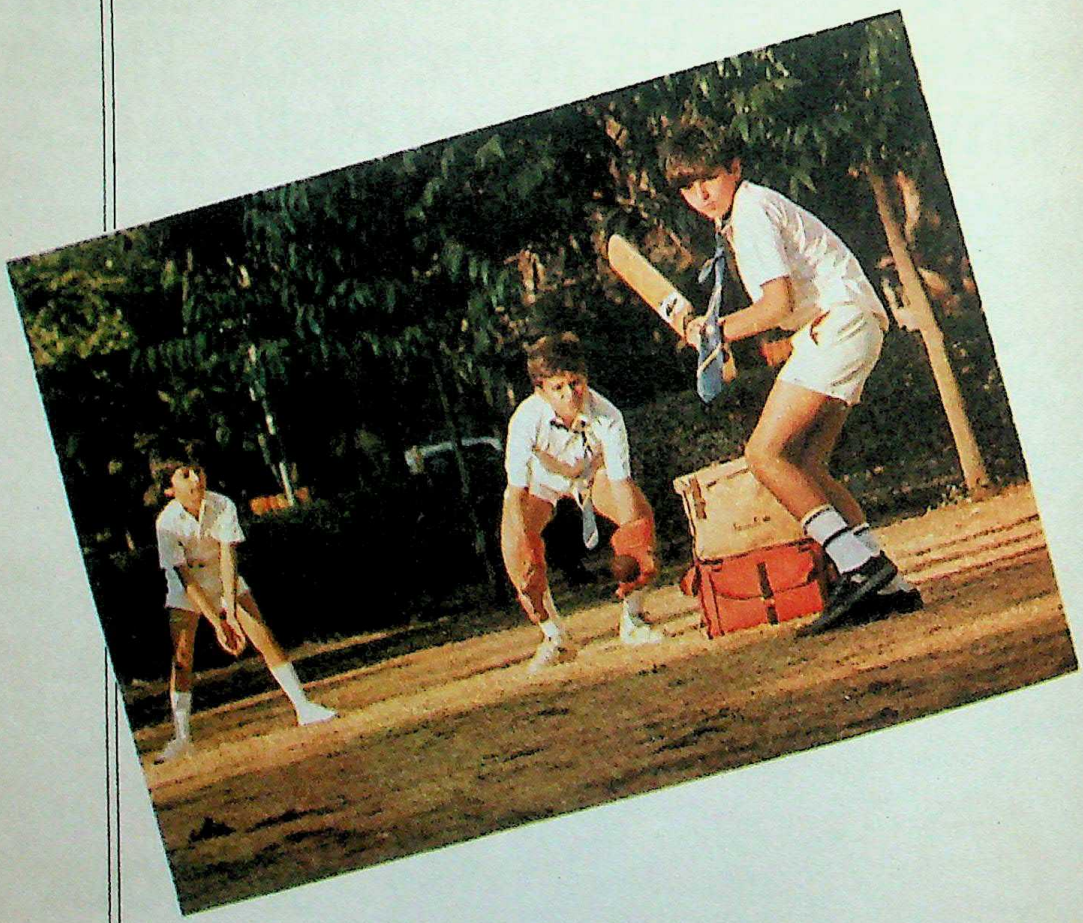

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AMAR CHITRA KATHA

No. 355 Rs. 4/-

Arjuna's 12-Year Exile

Mahabharata

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre

Amar Chitra Katha
No. 355 April 15, 1986

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Published by:
H.G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026
and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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Bombay 400 026.

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Admans Enterprises Inc.
1123 Broadway Suite 1010
New York N.Y. 10010

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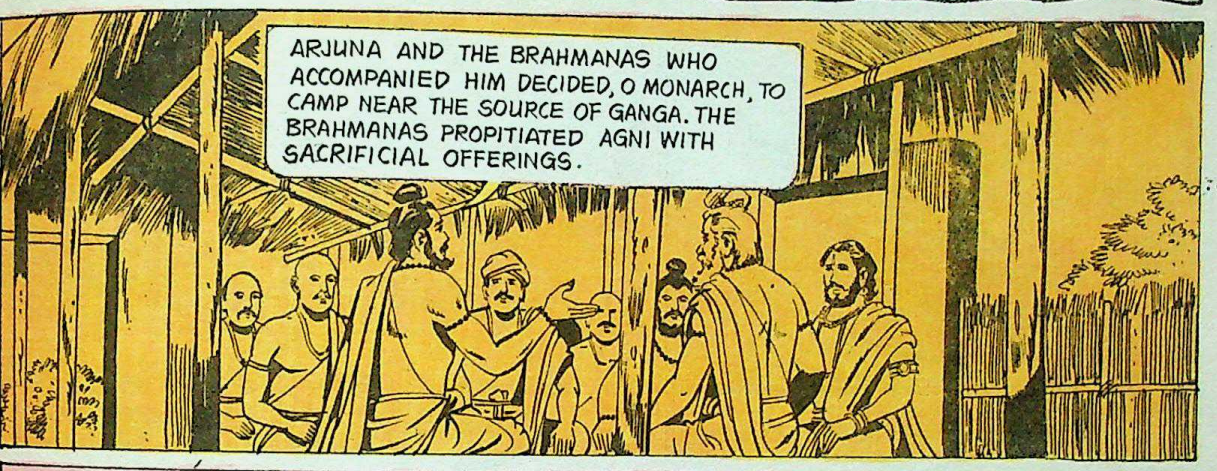
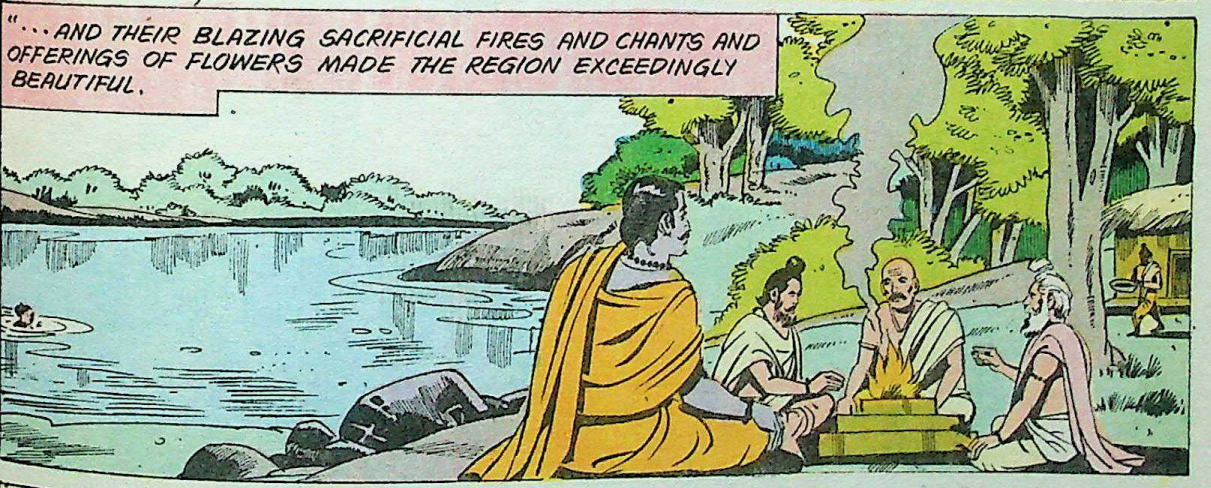
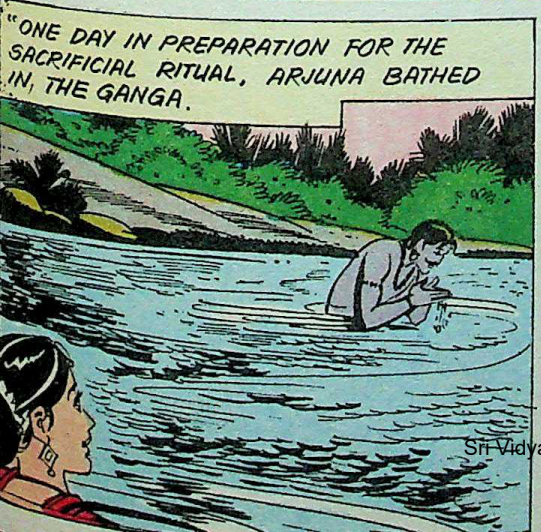
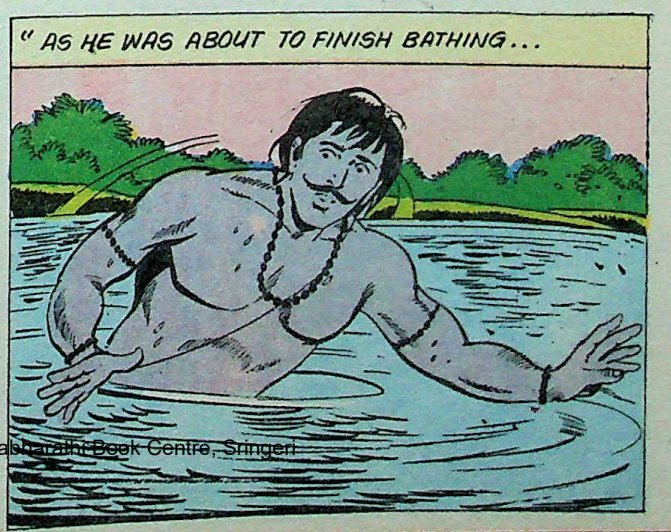
Mahabharata – 14

ARJUNA'S 12-YEAR EXILE









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"...HE WAS PULLED BY ULOOPI, THE DAUGHTER OF THE KING OF THE NAGAS...

"...DOWN TO THE BED OF THE RIVER...

"...AND INTO THE BEAUTIFUL MANSION OF HER FATHER.

"THERE HE SAW A SACRIFICIAL FIRE ALREADY ABLAZE. BEHOLDING THAT FIRE...

"...ARJUNA COMPLETED HIS SACRIFICE TO AGNI

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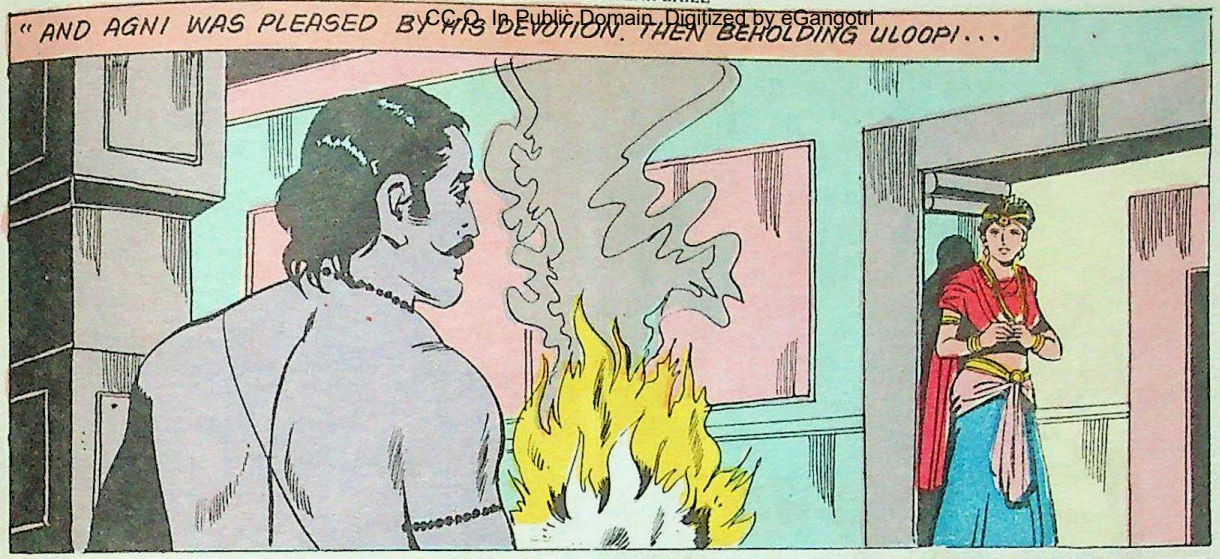

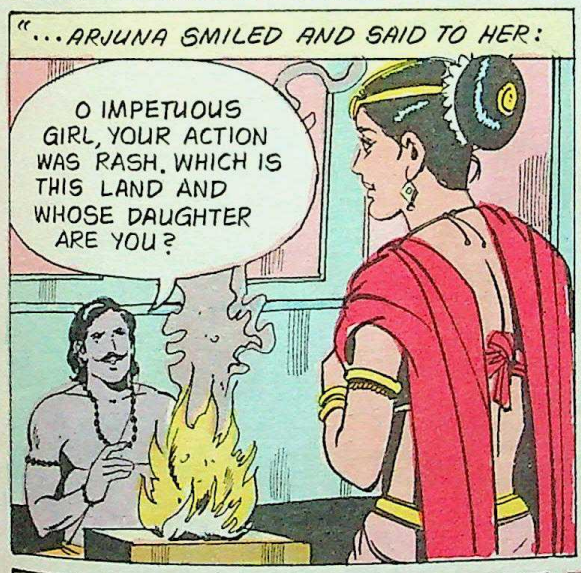

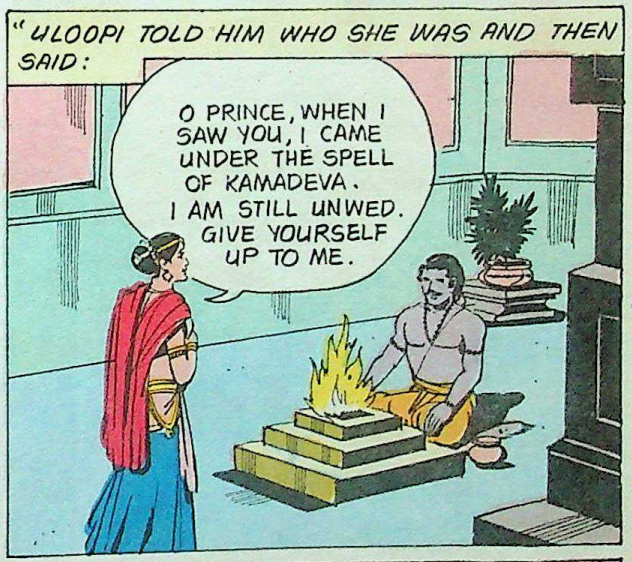

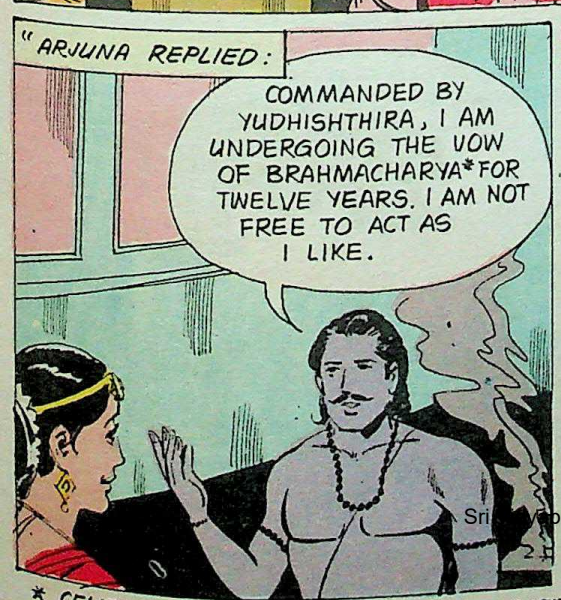

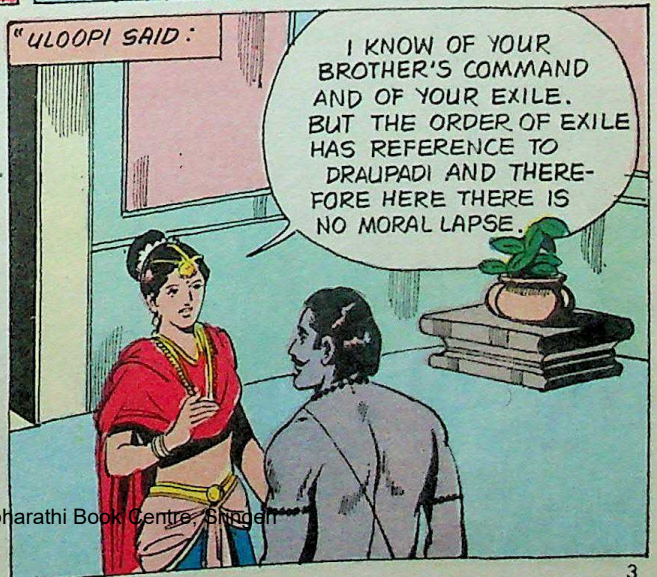

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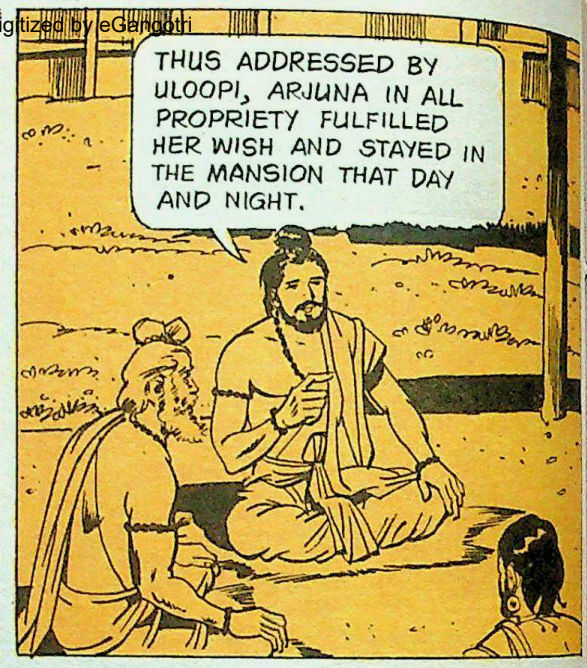

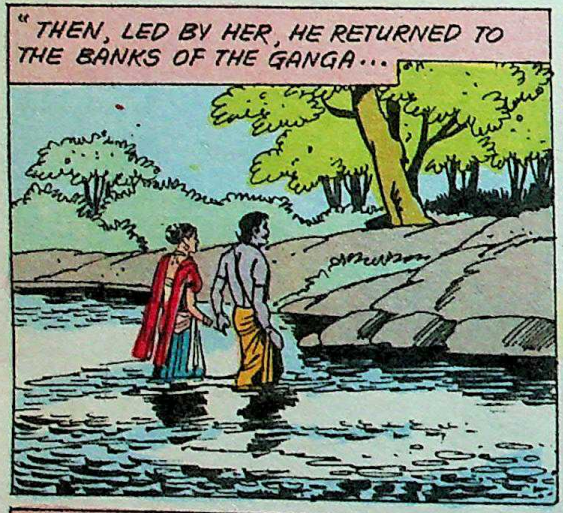

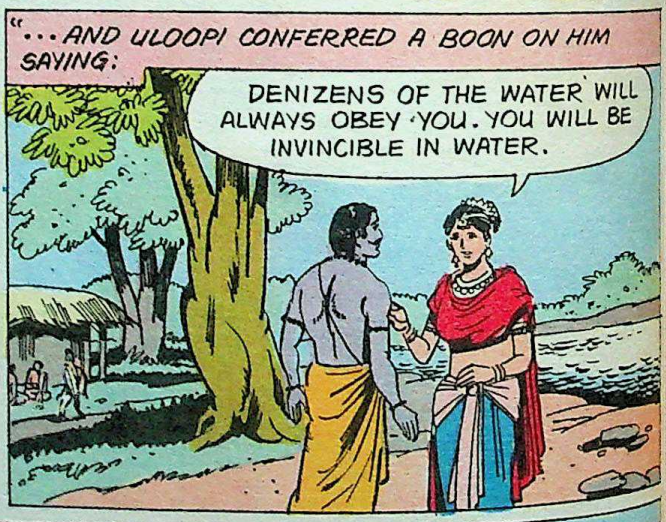

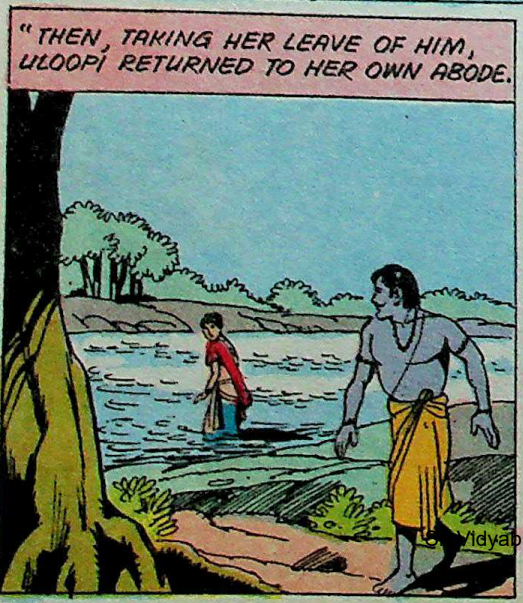

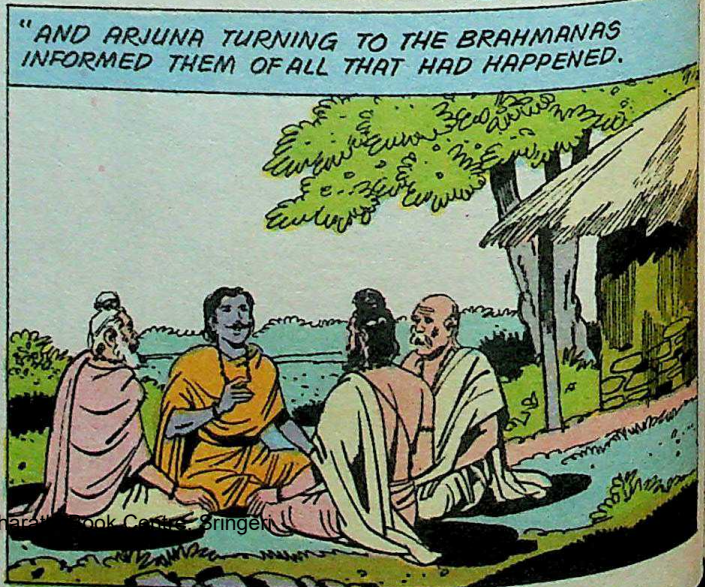

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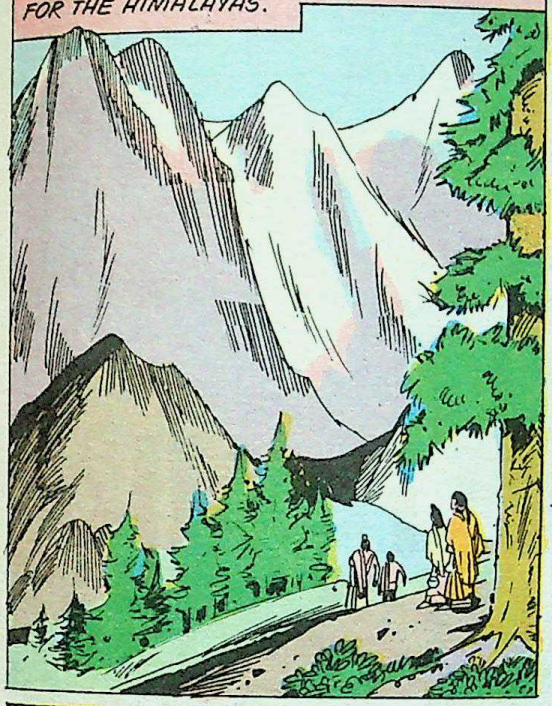
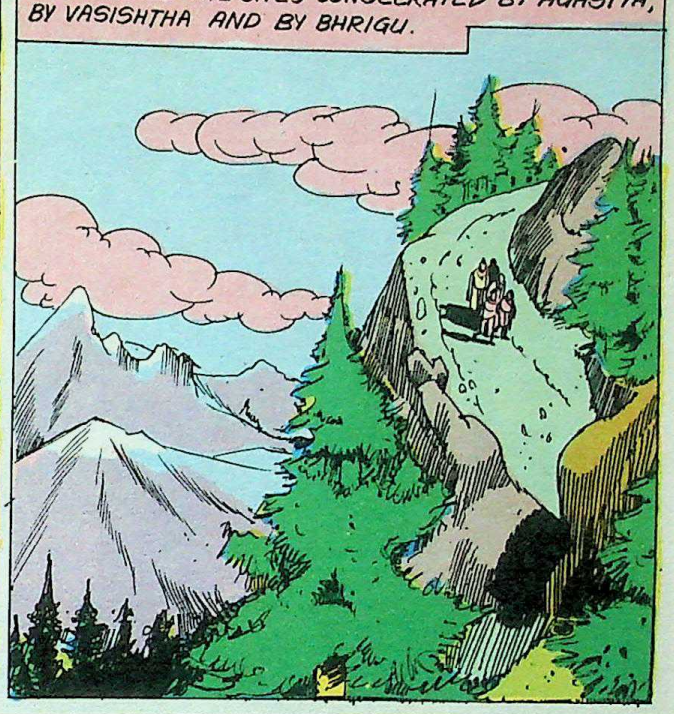
"THEN ACCOMPANIED BY THEM HE SET OUT FOR THE HIMALAYAS.



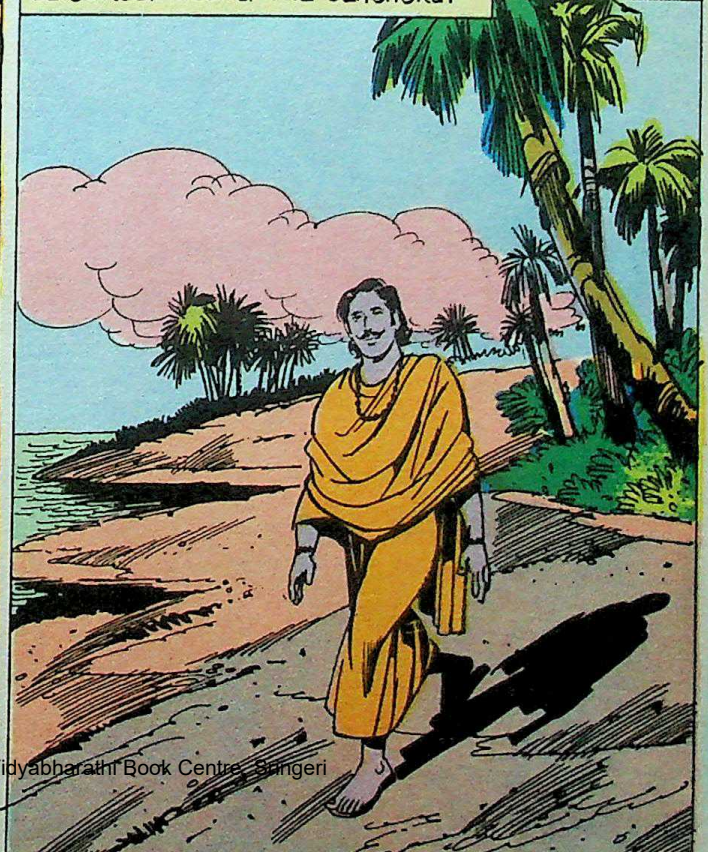
"HE VISITED THE SITES CONSECRATED BY AGASTYA, BY VASISHTHA AND BY BHRIGU.



THEN DESCENDING FROM THOSE HEIGHTS, HE JOURNEYED TOWARDS THE EAST TO BEHOLD THE REGIONS THAT LAY IN THAT DIRECTION.

HE VISITED ALL THE SACRED SPOTS OF ANGA, VANGA AND KALINGA. THE BRAHMANAS ACCOMPANYING HIM, BADE HIM FAREWELL AND ARJUNA CAME TO THE MAHENDRA MOUNTAINS...

"...AND THEN WENT TO MANIPURA, WALKING LEISURELY ALONG THE SEASHORE.



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"THE KING REPLIED:

O ARJUNA, I HAVE ONLY THIS MAIDEN TO PERPETUATE MY LINE. I LOOK UPON HER AS MY SON. THEREFORE THE SON BEGOTTEN OF YOU ON HER SHALL BE THE PROGENY OF MY LINE.

THAT SON SHALL BE THE BRIDE-PRICE YOU PAY. ON THIS CONDITION, O PANDAVA, YOU MAY WED HER.

"ARJUNA ACCEPTED, SAYING:

SO BE IT.

"AND HE SPENT THE NEXT THREE YEARS WITH CHITRANGADA IN THAT CITY. AND AFTER A SON WAS BORN TO HER HE SET OUT ON HIS WANDERINGS AGAIN.

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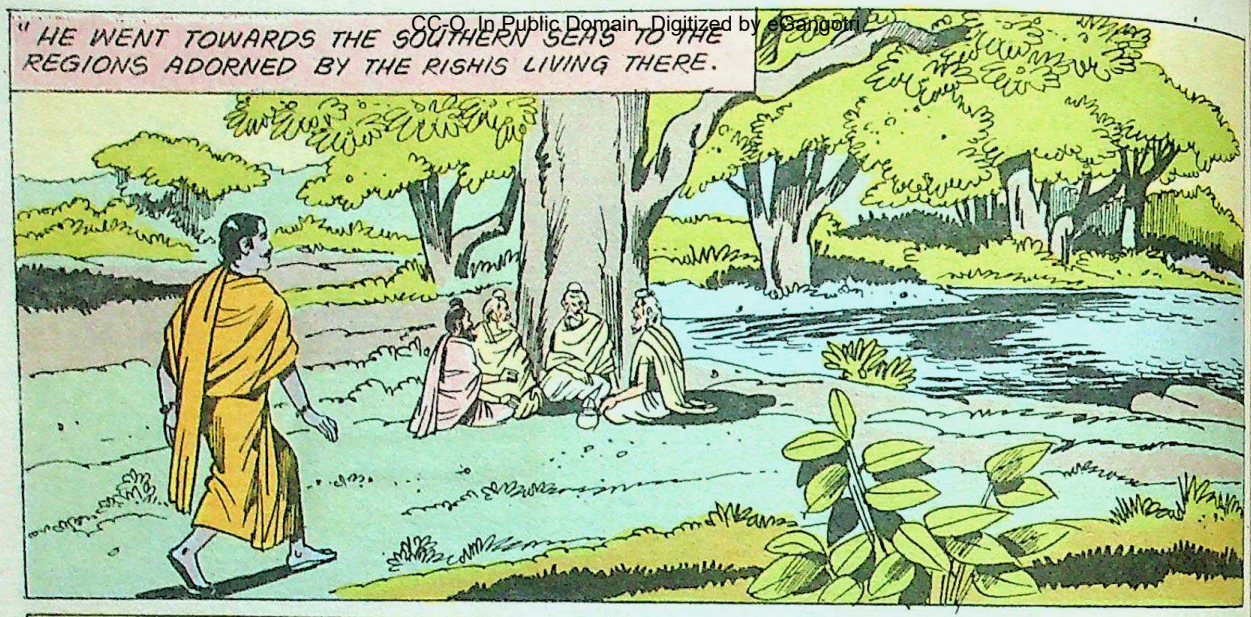

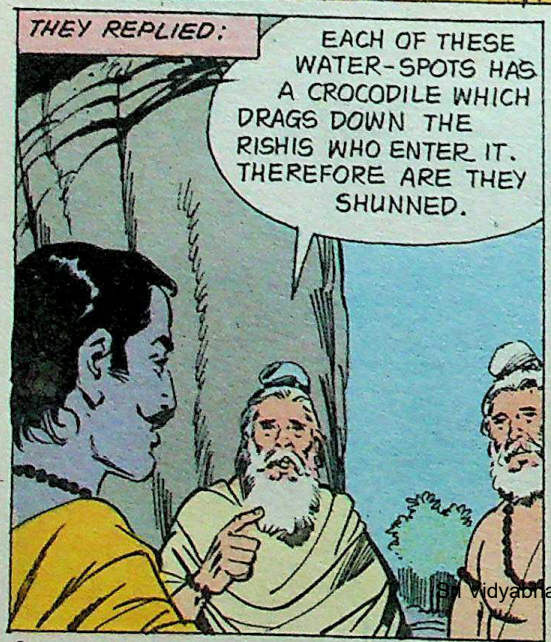

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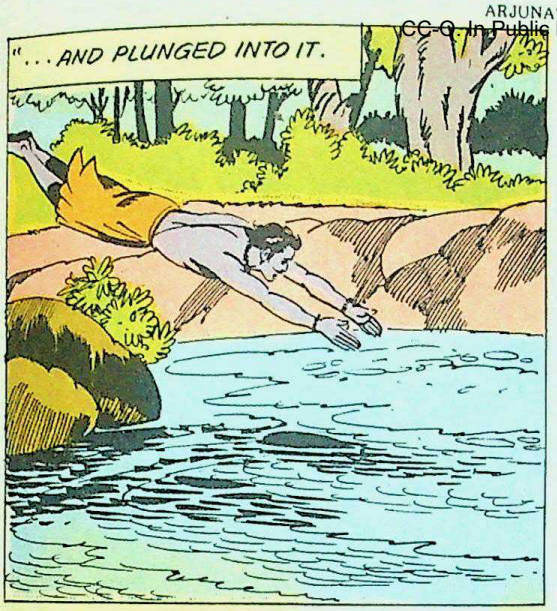

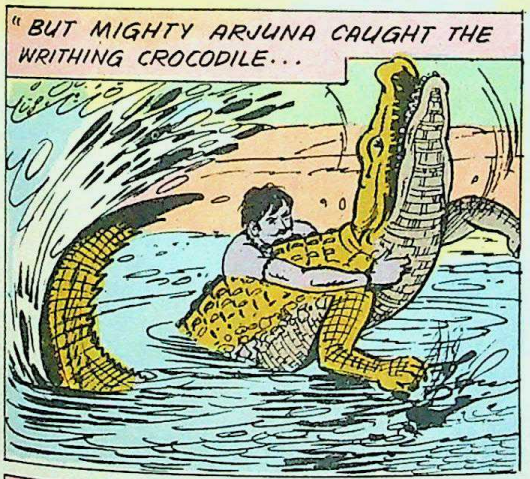

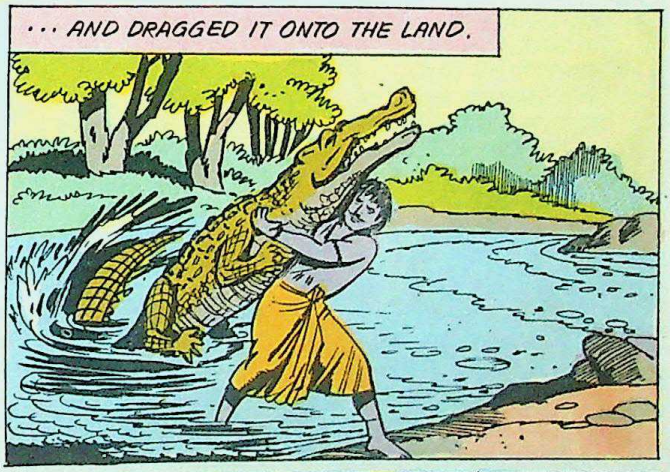

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"AND, AMAZED, ARJUNA ASKED HER:

WHO ARE YOU, O PRETTY WOMAN?

"SHE REPLIED:

I AM AN APSARAS. MY FOUR COMPANIONS AND I WERE CURSED BY A BRIGHT BRAHMANA WHEN WE TRIED IN VAIN TO DIVERT HIM FROM HIS STEADFAST MEDITATION.

"IN ANGER HE SAID:

YOU SHALL BE TURNED INTO CROCODILES AND LIVE THUS FOR THE NEXT ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

AT THE END OF THAT PERIOD A GREAT MAN WILL LIFT YOU UP FROM THE WATER AND THEN YOU WILL REGAIN YOUR EARLIER FORMS.

YOU HAVE BEEN MY DELIVERANCE. MY FOUR COMPANIONS ARE STILL IN THOSE OTHER WATER SPOTS. LIBERATE THEM ALSO.

ARJUNA, O MONARCH, DELIVERED ALL OF THEM FROM THEIR CURSE AND LET THEM GO WHEREVER THEY CHOSE. THEN, INTENT ON MEETING CHITRANGADA..

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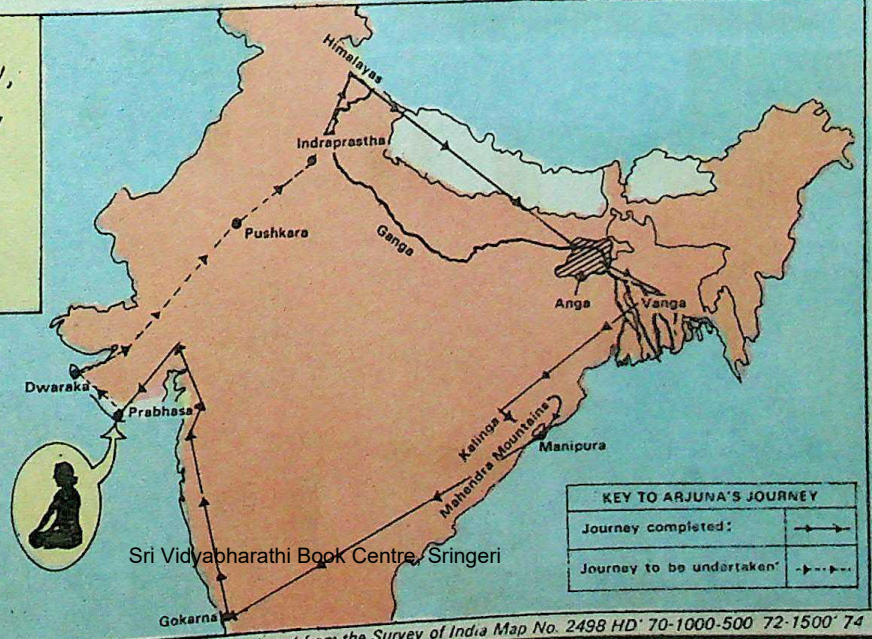
"... HE PROCEEDED TO MANIPURA. THERE HE BEHELD BABHRUVAHANA, THE SON HE HAD BEGOTTEN WITH CHITRANGADA AND...

...WHOM HE CEREMONIALLY PRESENTED TO THE KING SAYING:

ACCEPT THE SON, BEGOTTEN OF ME ON CHITRANGADA, AND FREE ME OF MY DEBT.

TAKING LEAVE OF CHITRANGADA, O MONARCH, ARJUNA PROCEEDED TOWARDS GOKARNA. THEN VISITING, ONE AFTER ANOTHER, THE SACRED SPOTS ON THE SHORES OF THE WESTERN OCEAN, HE REACHED PRABHASA.



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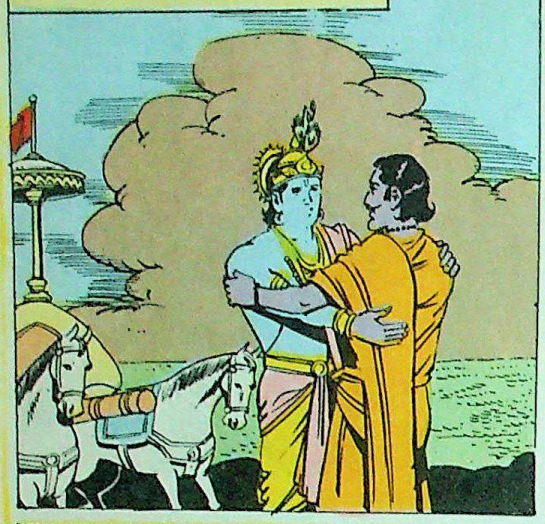
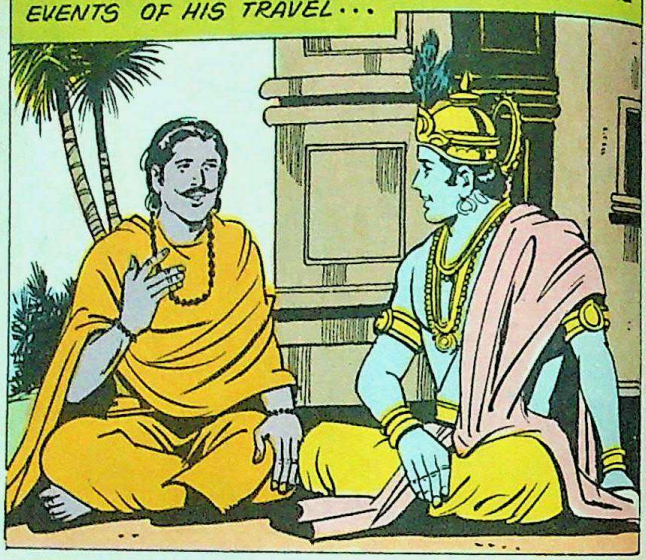
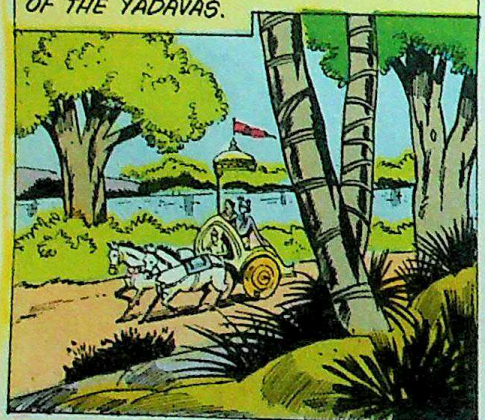
"KRISHNA HEARD OF HIS ARRIVAL AND WENT TO GREET HIS FRIEND.



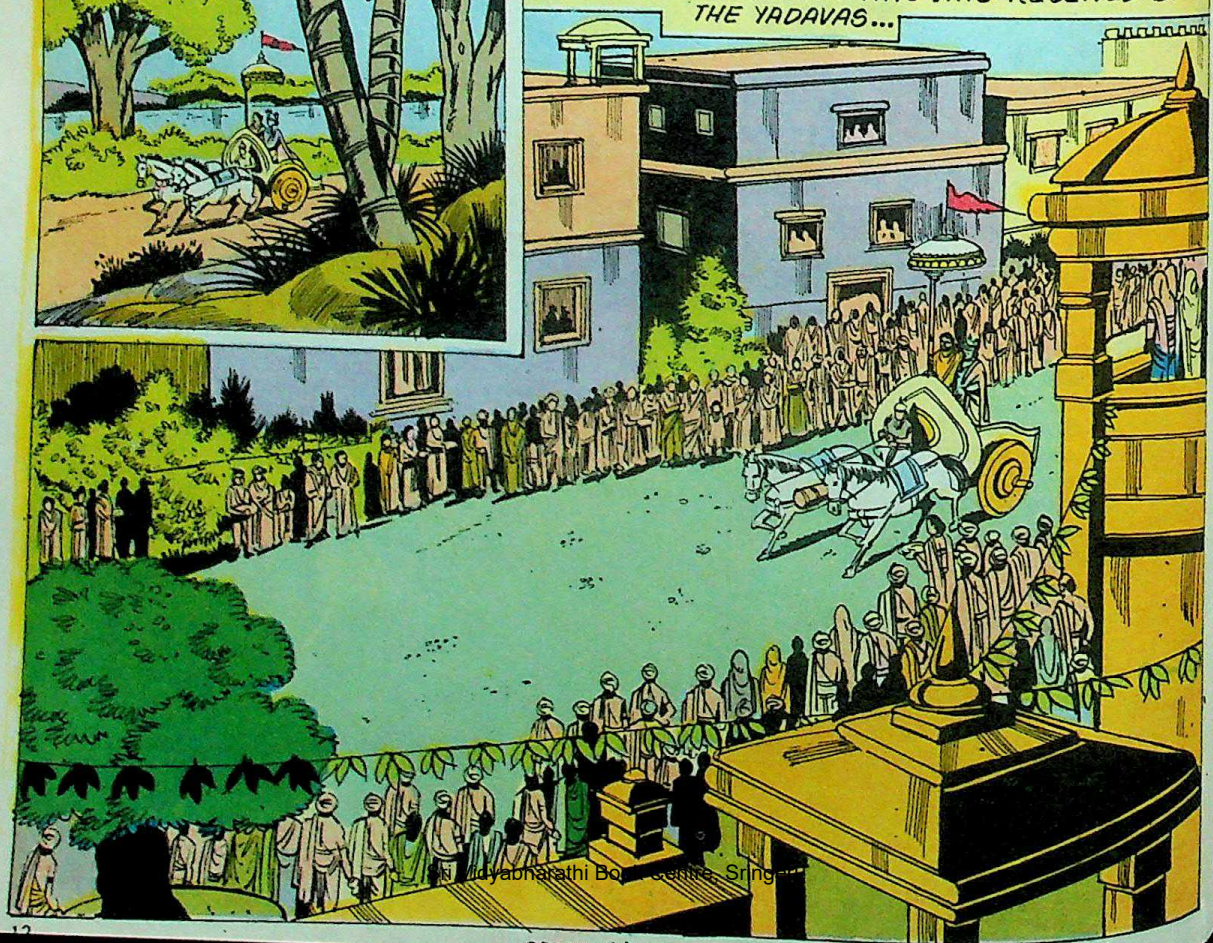
"AND AFTER ARJUNA NARRATED IN DETAIL THE EVENTS OF HIS TRAVEL...



"...THEY SET OUT IN A GOLDEN CHARIOT FOR DWARAKA, THE CAPITAL OF THE YADAVAS.



"AND, O JANAMEJAYA, THE CITY OF DWARAKA, WITH ITS HOUSES AND GARDENS, WAS GAILY DECORATED IN HONOUR OF ARJUNA'S VISIT. AND THE CITIZENS OF DWARAKA THRONGED THE ROYAL PATH TO SEE THE SON OF KUNTI. ARJUNA WHO WAS RECEIVED BY THE YADAVAS...



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"...ARRIVED AT THE PALACE OF KRISHNA WHICH WAS ENCRUSTED WITH GEMS.

AND HE STAYED THERE WITH KRISHNA FOR MANY DAYS. NOW WAS HELD THE FESTIVAL OF THE YADAVAS ON THE RAIVATAKA MOUNTAIN ADORNED WITH BEJEWELLED DWELLINGS AMONG ABUNDANT TREES.

MUSICIANS, SINGERS AND DANCERS PERFORMED THERE. THE CITIZENS SOME ON FOOT, SOME IN CARRIAGES, WITH THEIR WIVES AND THEIR ATTENDANTS WERE THERE IN THEIR THOUSANDS.

"AND WHILE KRISHNA AND ARJUNA STROLLED TOGETHER AMONG THE WONDROUS SIGHTS THERE...

"...THEY SAW SUBHADRA, THE DAUGHTER OF VASUDEVA, AMIDST HER FRIENDS. AND ARJUNA WAS SMITTEN BY KAMADEVA.

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"KRISHNA OBSERVED ARJUNA AND SAID WITH A SMILE:

A RECLUSE OF THE FOREST AGITATED BY KAMADEVA!

THAT IS MY SISTER AND SHE IS THE FAVOURITE OF OUR FATHER.

"ARJUNA SAID:

SHE IS IRRESISTIBLY BEAUTIFUL! IF THIS SISTER OF YOURS BECOMES MY WIFE, ALL PROSPERITY WILL BE MINE.

"KRISHNA SAID:

IF THAT IS WHERE YOUR THOUGHT IS, THEN I SHALL SPEAK TO MY FATHER, MYSELF.

"THEN ARJUNA SAID:

TELL ME, O KRISHNA, THE MEANS BY WHICH I MAY WIN HER. I SHALL DO EVERYTHING HUMANLY POSSIBLE.

"KRISHNA REPLIED:

SWAYAMVARA IS THE MARRIAGE ORDAINED FOR KSHATRIYAS. BUT... THERE IS UNCERTAINTY IN IT. HOWEVER...

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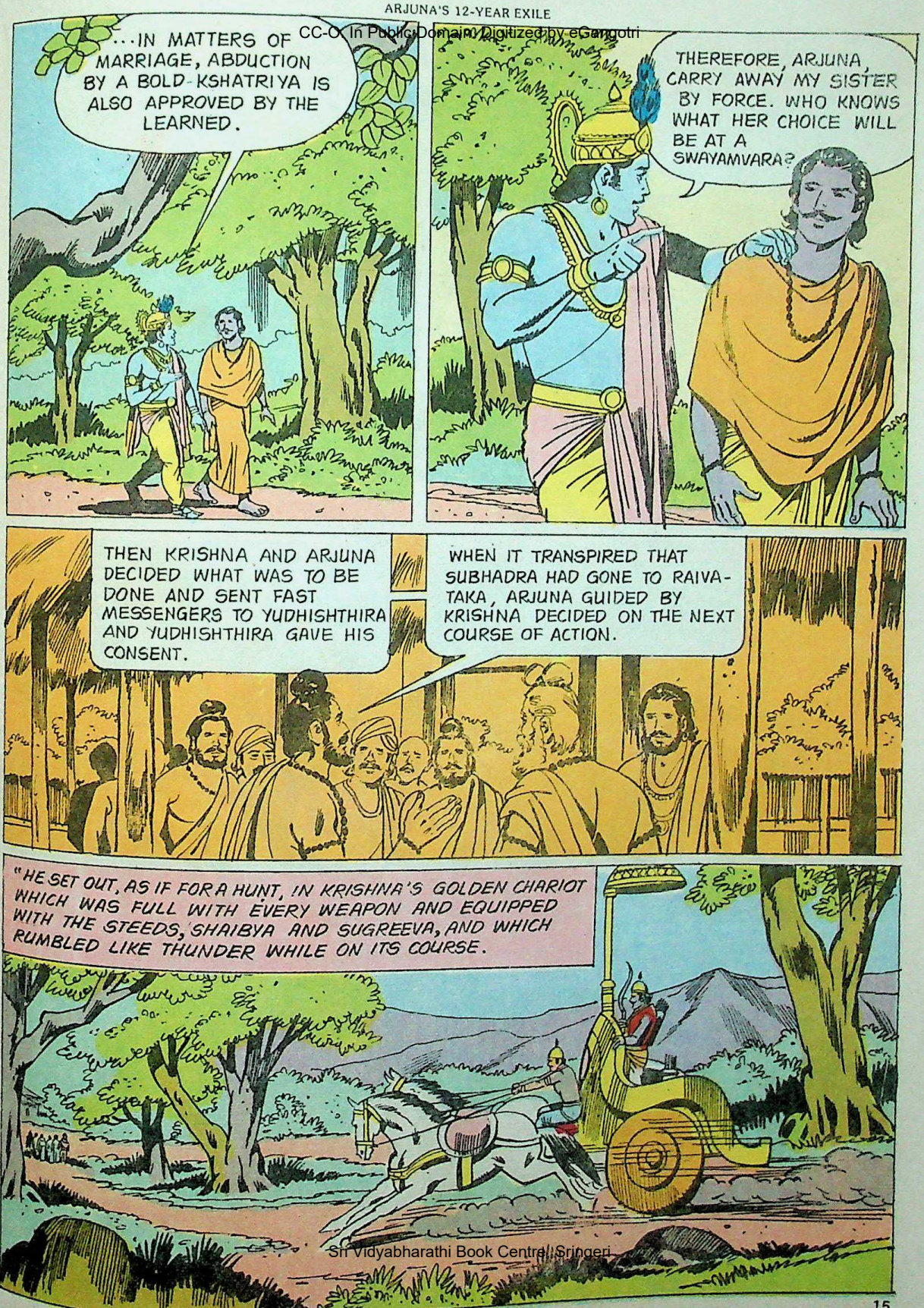

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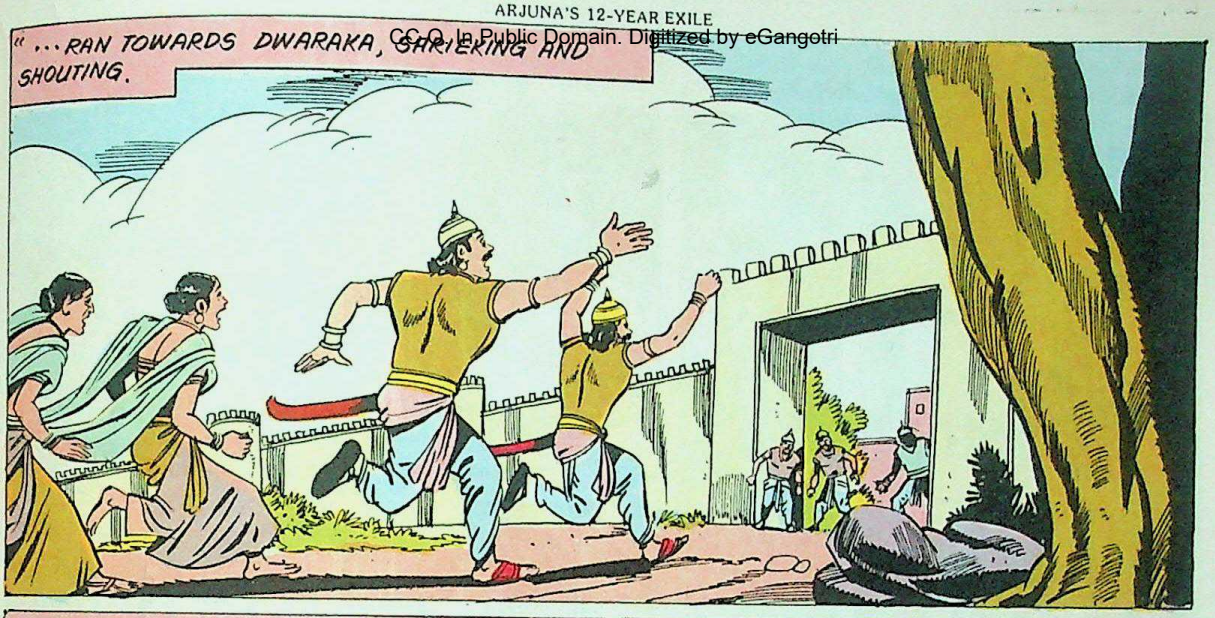

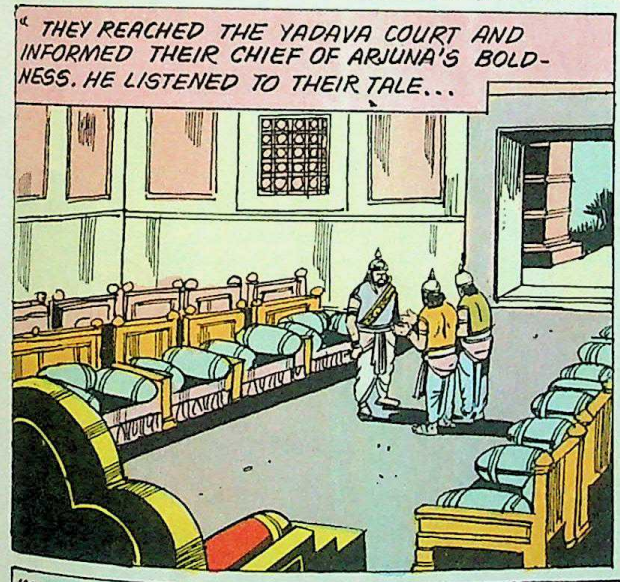

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"... THE VALIANT MEN OF THE CLAN, LEFT THEIR MEALS HALF-EATEN, THEIR DRINKS UNFINISHED...

"...AND RUSHED IN FROM ALL SIDES.

"THOSE VALIANT MEN TOOK THEIR SEATS ON GILDED THRONES COVERED WITH RICH CARPETS AND DECKED WITH PRECIOUS GEMS.

WHEN THEY WERE SEATED, O MONARCH, THE CHIEFTAIN NARRATED THE DOINGS OF ARJUNA.

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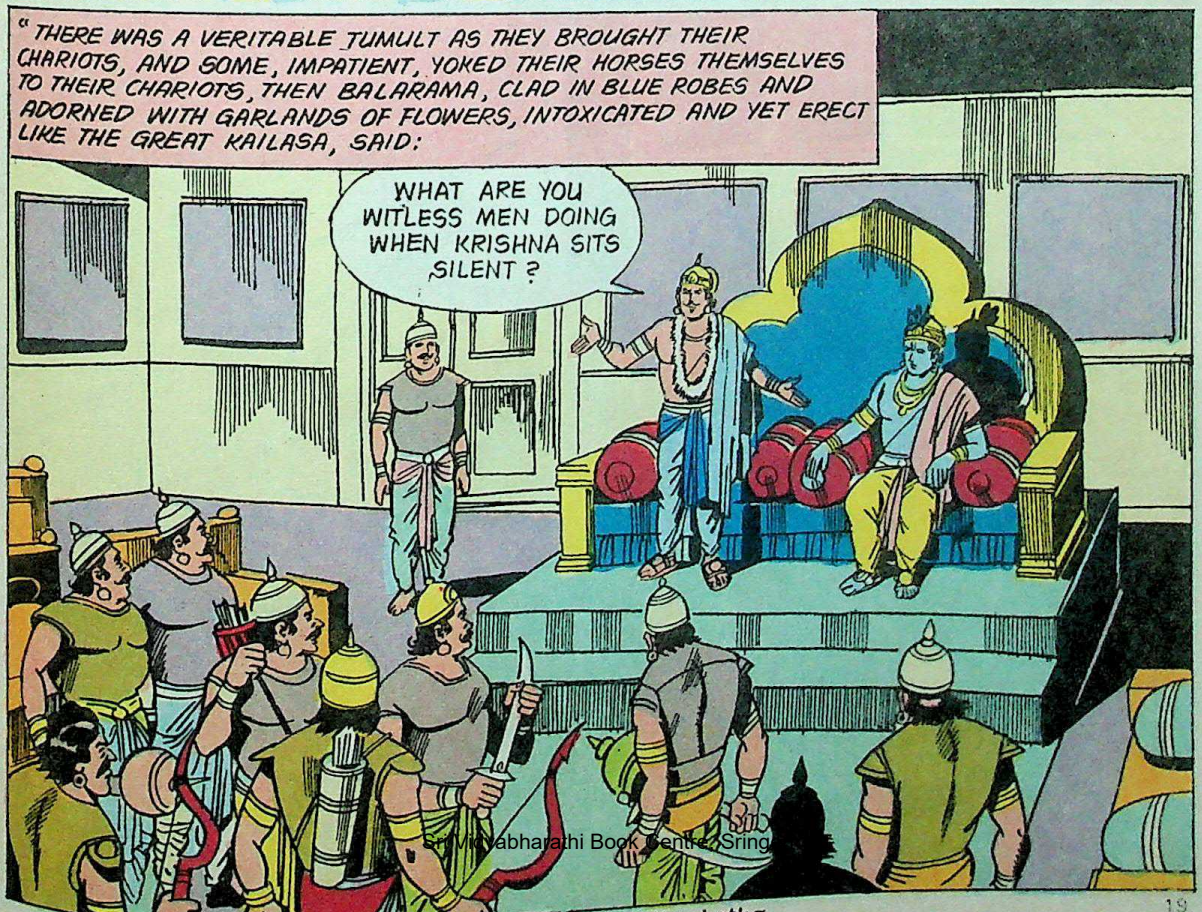

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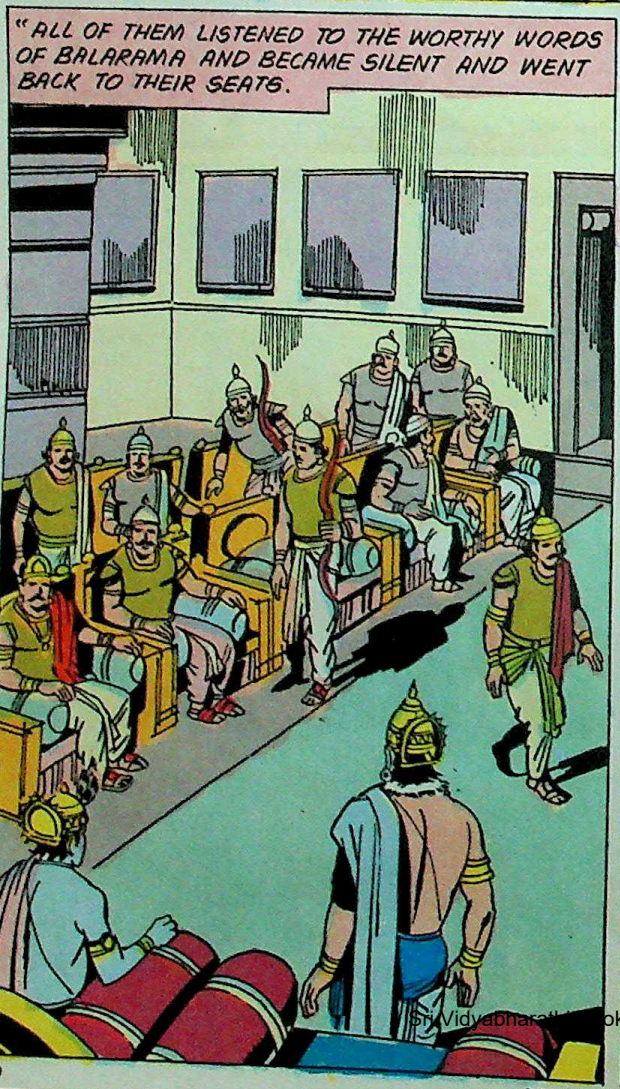

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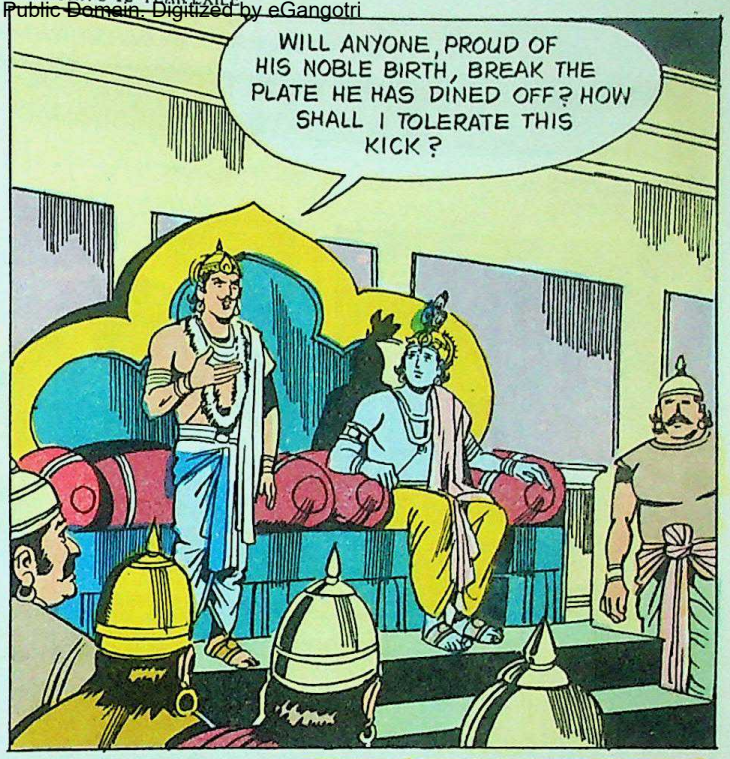

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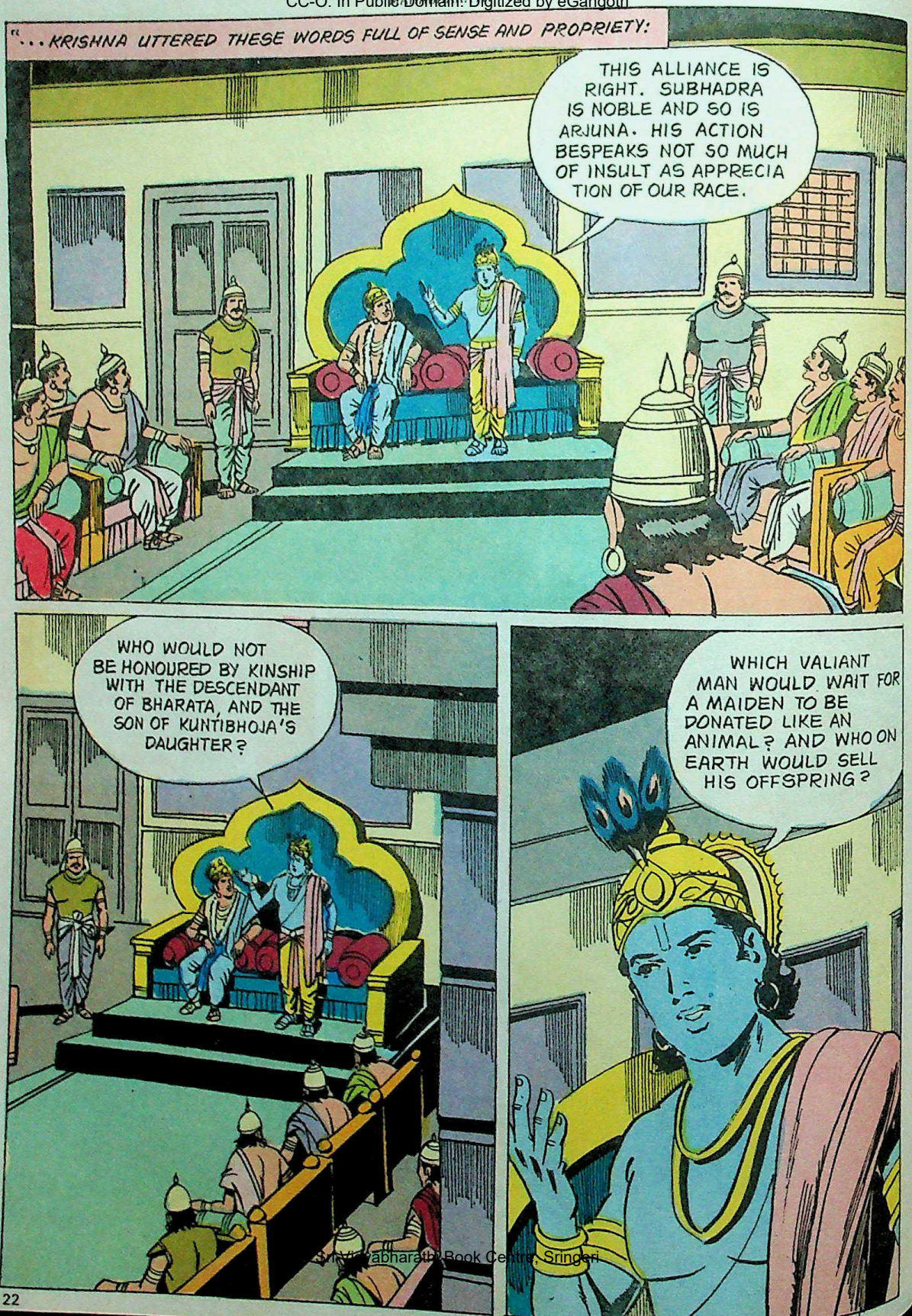

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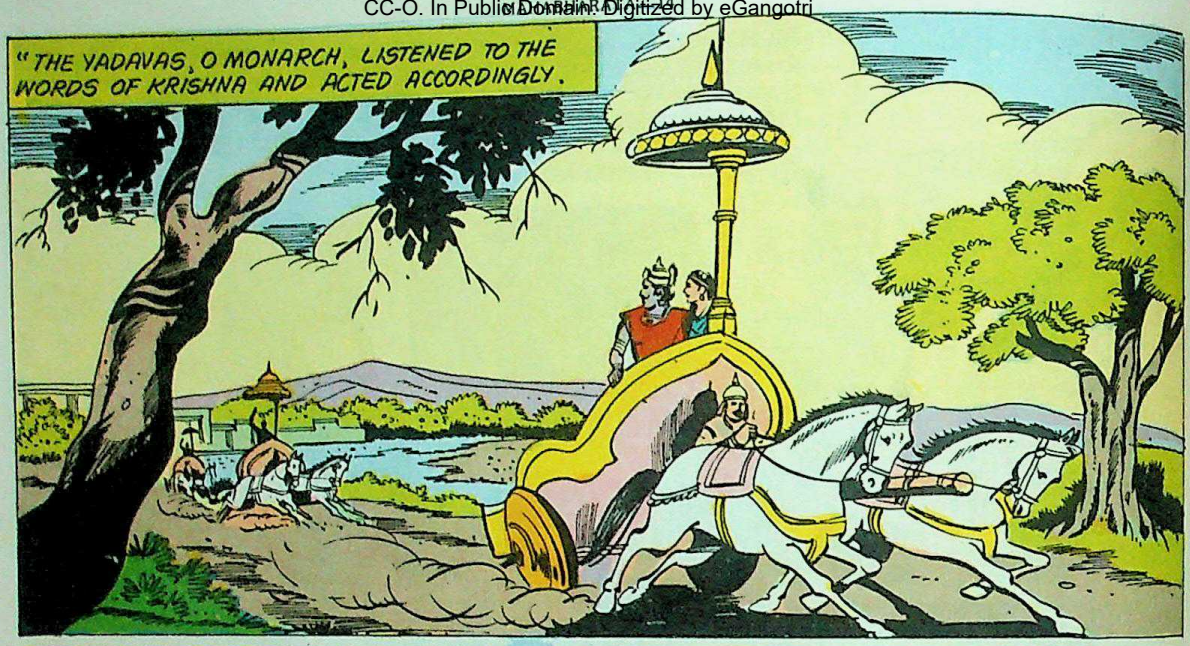

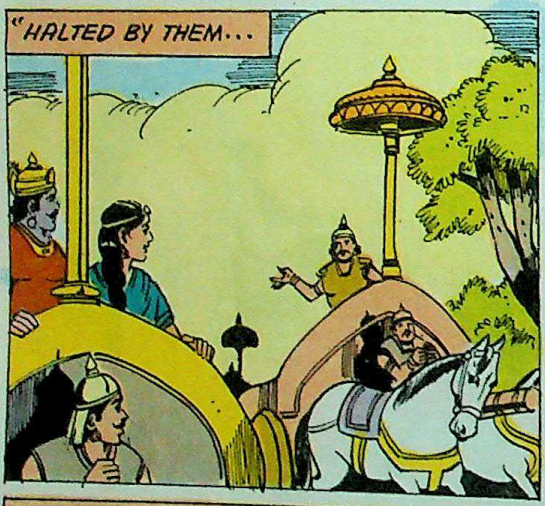

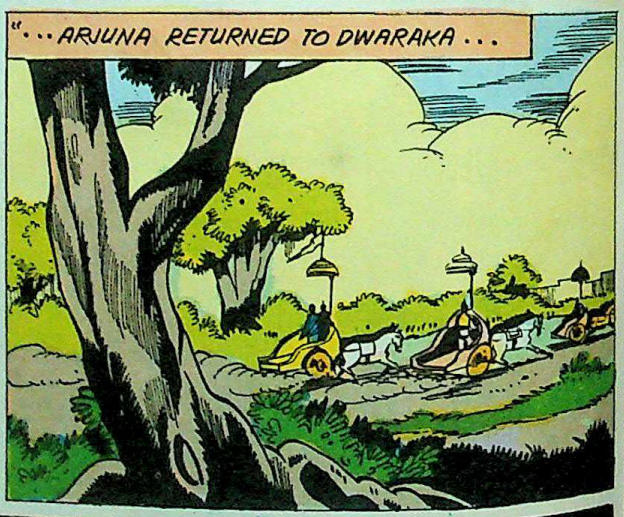

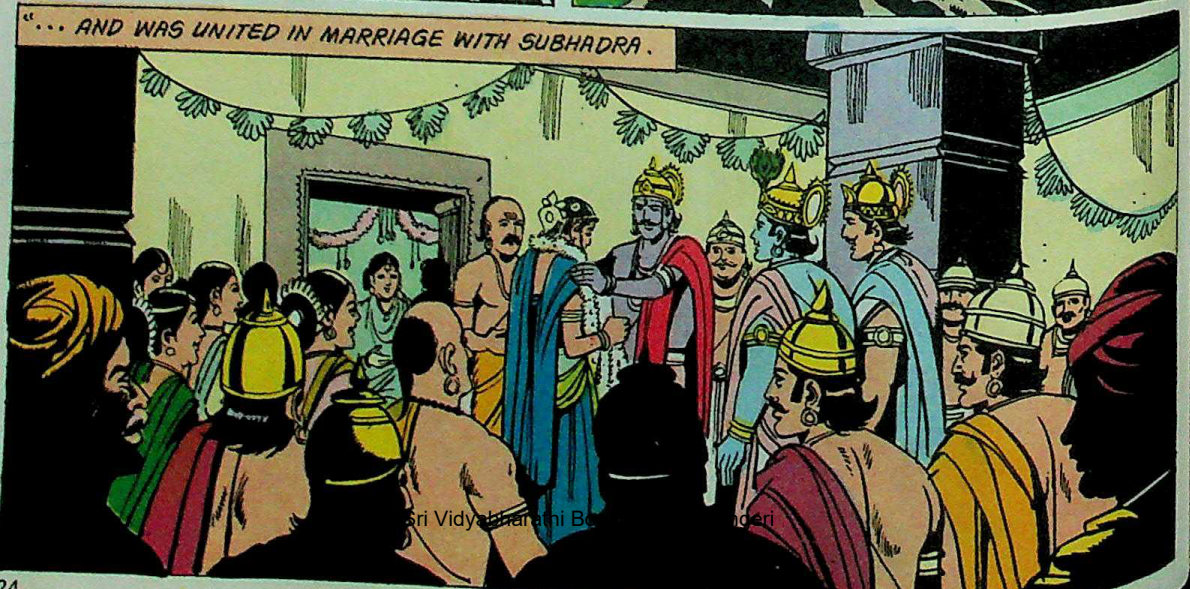

Sri Vidyabharathi Bo... ...ngeri

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CHERISHED BY THE YADAVAS, ARJUNA SPENT A YEAR IN DWARAKA AND THEN, IN THE LAST YEAR OF HIS EXILE, HE STAYED IN THE SACRED SPOT OF PUSHKARA*.

"AND AFTER THE TWELVE YEARS WERE COMPLETED HE CAME BACK TO INDRAPRASTHA.

"HE PAID HIS RESPECTS TO THE KING FIRST AND THEN...

"...WENT TO DRAUPADI WHO IN JEALOUSY SAID TO HIM:

GO BACK TO WHERE SUBHADRA IS.

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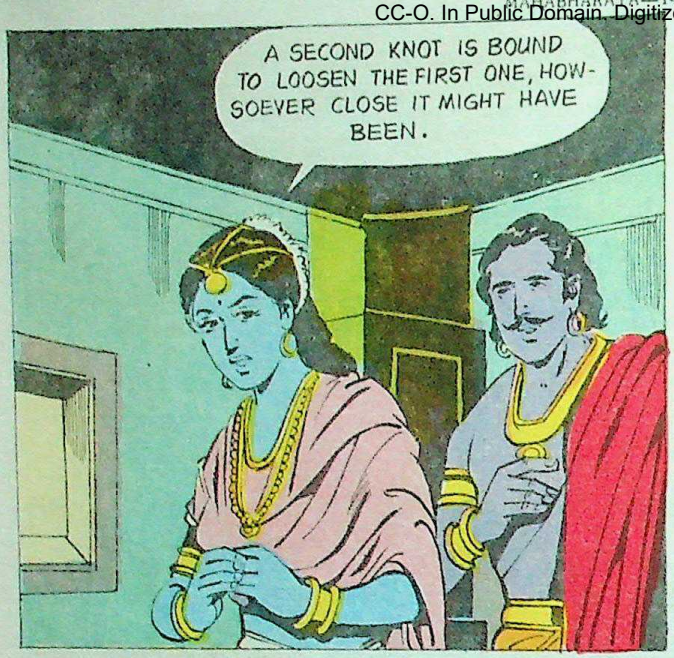

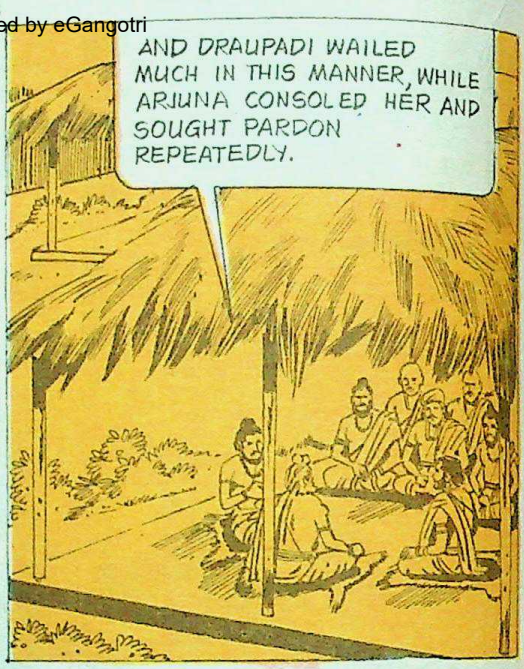

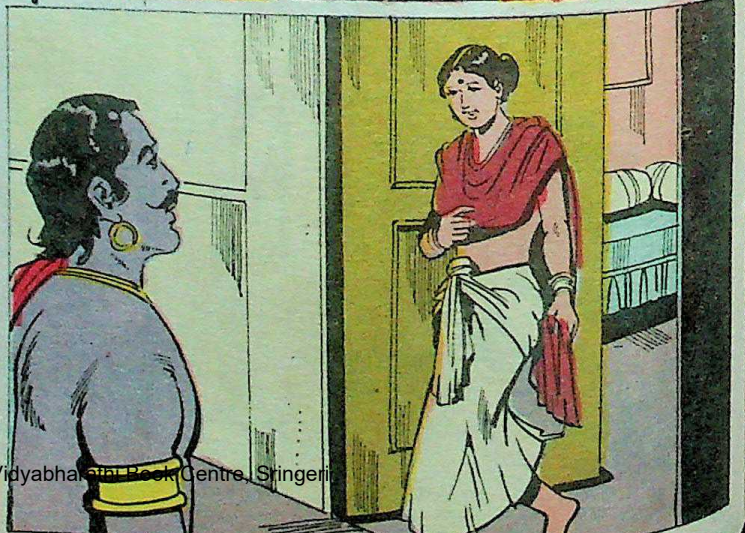

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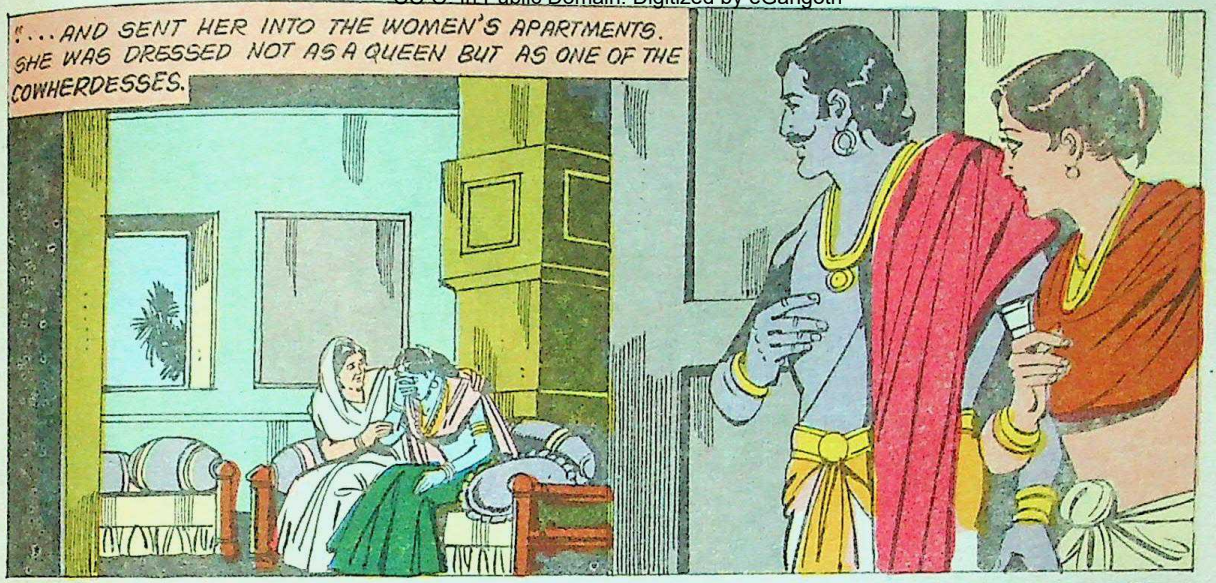

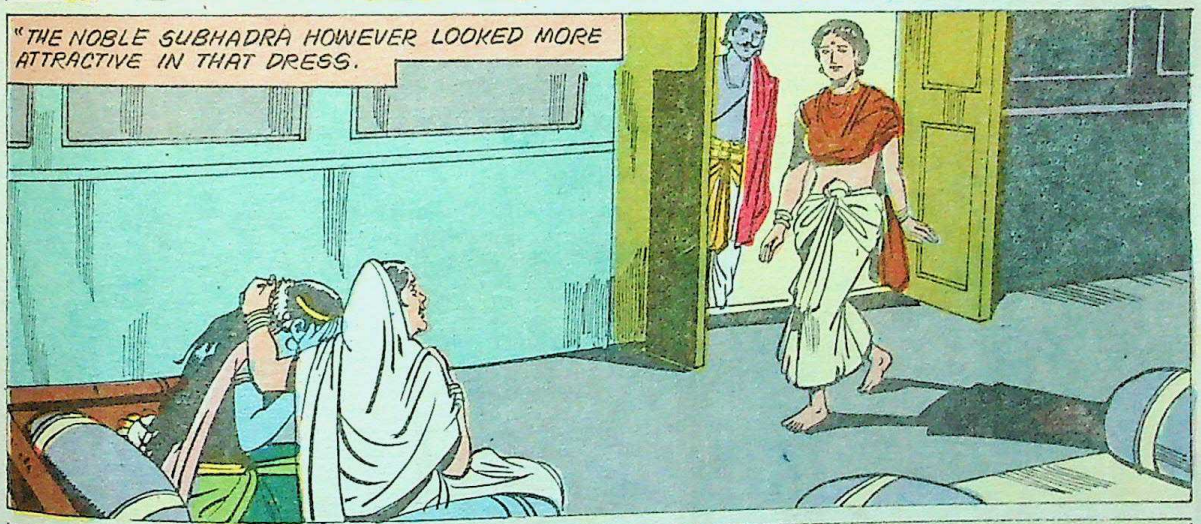

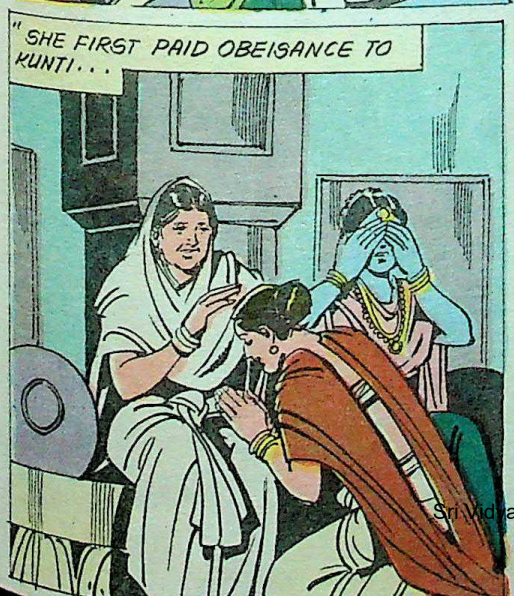

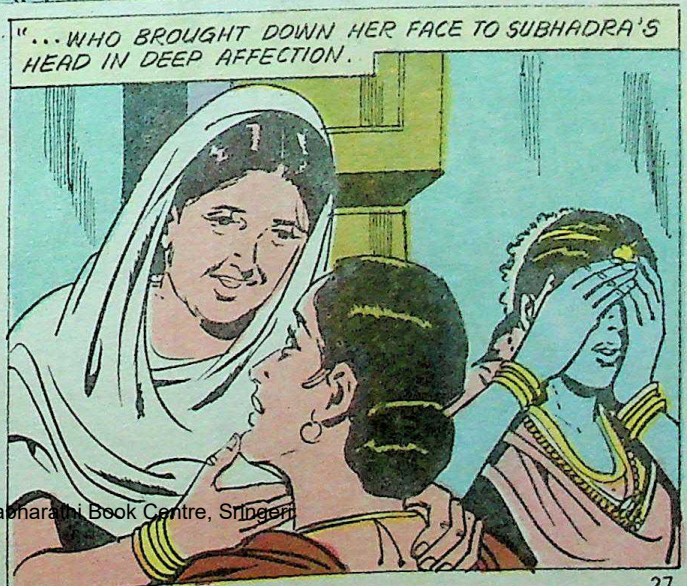

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"WHEN KRISHNA HEARD THAT ARJUNA HAD REACHED INDRAPRASTHA, HE WENT THERE WITH BALARAMA AND OTHER YADAVA NOBLEMEN. HE ALSO BROUGHT WEDDING GIFTS IN PLENTY. YUDHISHTHIRA, WHEN HE HEARD OF KRISHNA'S VISIT, SENT THE TWINS OUT TO RECEIVE HIM.

"AND THE YADAVA PROCESSION ENTERED INDRAPRASTHA WHICH WAS BRIGHT WITH FLAGS AND FESTOONS. THEY CAME INTO THE CITY...

"...AND THEN ENTERED YUDHISHTHIRA'S PALACE.

KRISHNA GAVE MUCH WEALTH TO THEM AND THE WEDDING GIFTS SENT BY HER KINSMEN TO SUBHADRA.

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"THE VALIANT MEN OF THE KURU AND YADAVA RACES PASSED MANY DAYS TOGETHER IN PLEASURABLE PURSUITS.

"THEN THE YADAVAS, LED BY BALARAMA, RETURNED TO THE CITY OF DWARAKA CARRYING WITH THEM THE DAZZLING, PRECIOUS JEWELS PRESENTED TO THEM BY THE GREAT KURUS.

"KRISHNA REMAINED IN INDRAPRASTHA WITH ARJUNA AND ROAMED THE BANKS OF THE YAMUNA HUNTING DEER AND WILD BOAR.

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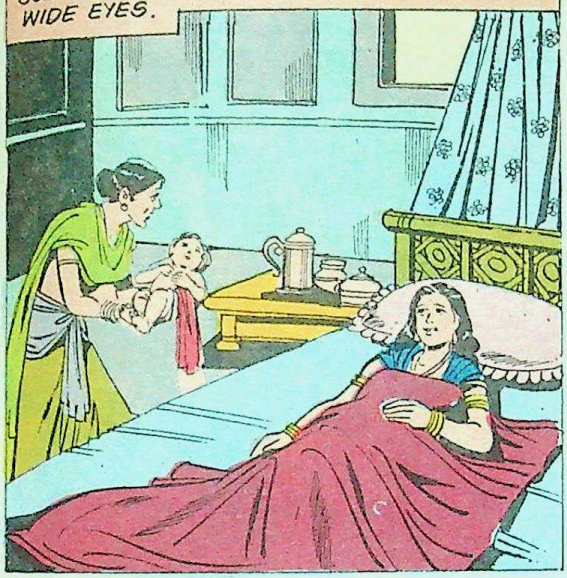
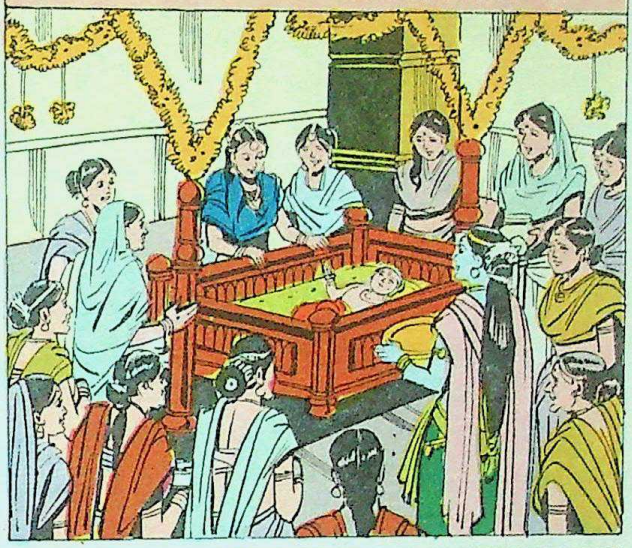
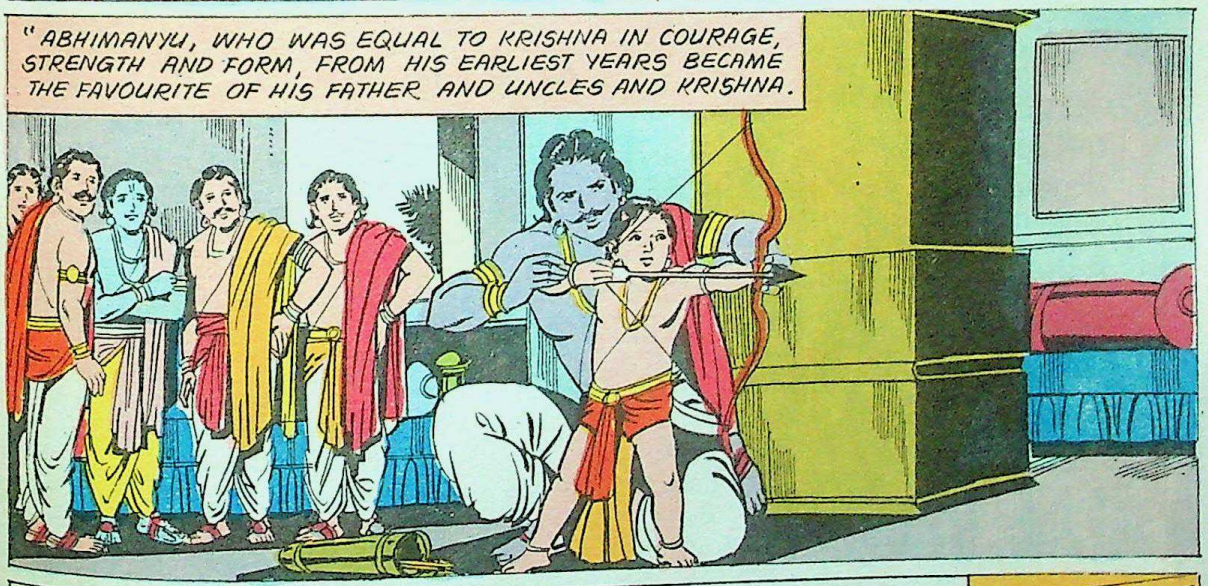
"IN DUE COURSE, SUBHADRA GAVE BIRTH TO A SON OF LONG ARMS, BROAD CHEST AND WIDE EYES.



"KRISHNA ARRANGED TO HAVE ALL THE RITUALS DONE AS SOON AS THE CHILD, WHO CAME TO BE CALLED ABHIMANYU, WAS BORN.



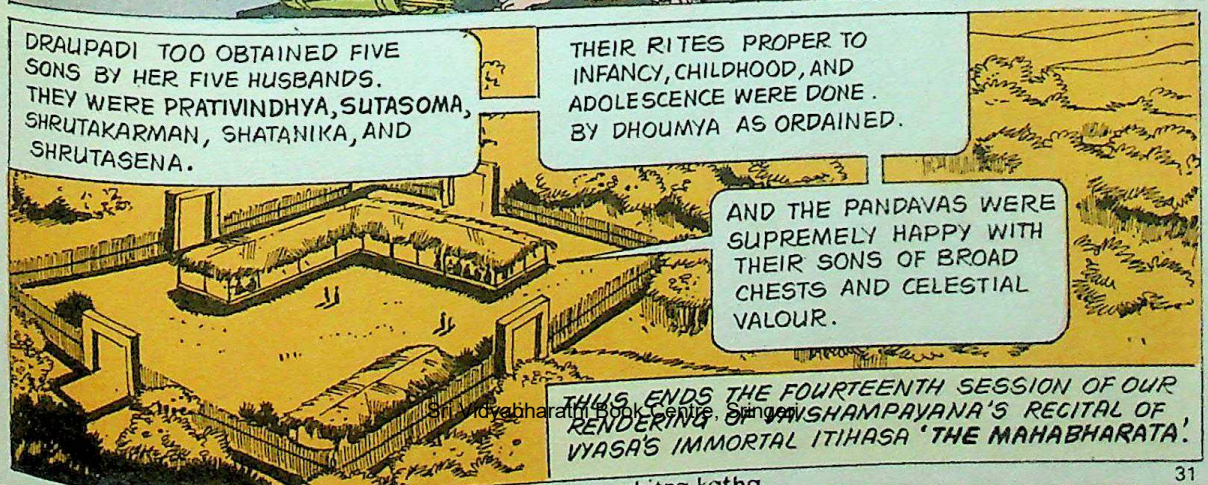
"ABHIMANYU, WHO WAS EQUAL TO KRISHNA IN COURAGE, STRENGTH AND FORM, FROM HIS EARLIEST YEARS BECAME THE FAVOURITE OF HIS FATHER AND UNCLES AND KRISHNA.



DRAUPADI TOO OBTAINED FIVE SONS BY HER FIVE HUSBANDS. THEY WERE PRATIVINDHYA, SUTASOMA, SHRUTAKARMAN, SHATANIKA, AND SHRUTASENA.

THEIR RITES PROPER TO INFANCY, CHILDHOOD, AND ADOLESCENCE WERE DONE. BY DHOUMYA AS ORDAINED.

AND THE PANDAVAS WERE SUPREMELY HAPPY WITH THEIR SONS OF BROAD CHESTS AND CELESTIAL VALOUR.



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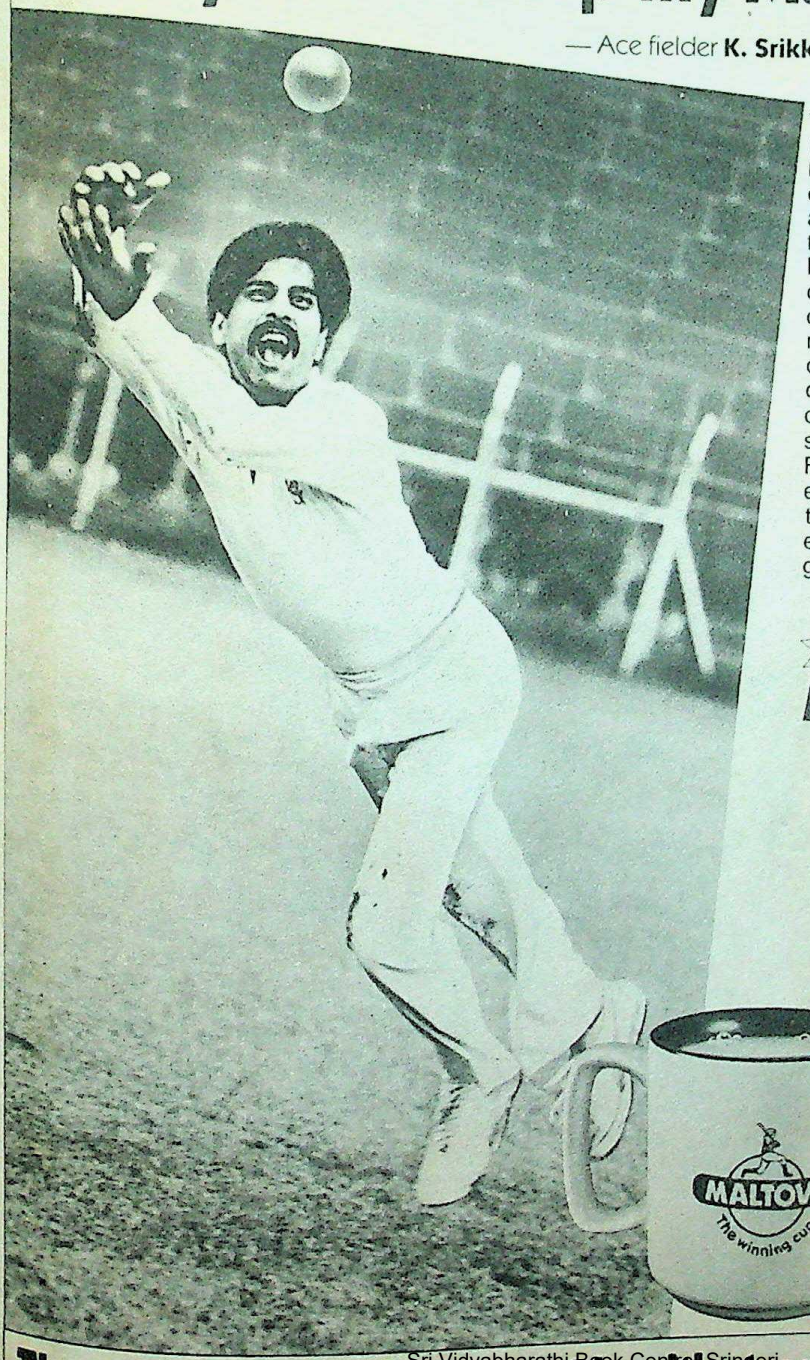

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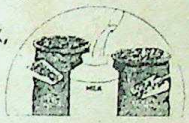

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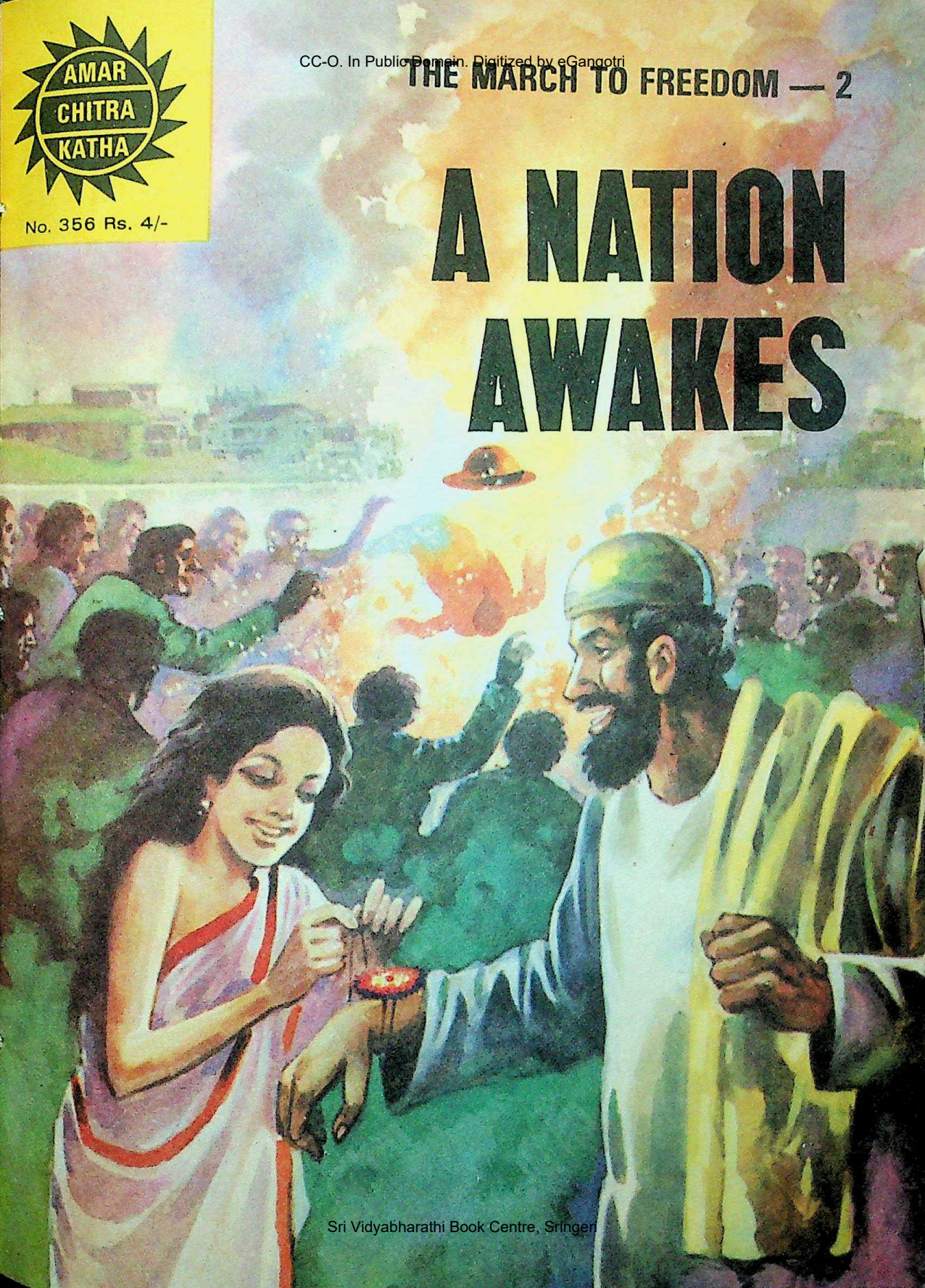

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Amar Chitra Katha
No. 356 May 1, 1986

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Published by:
H. G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026 and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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THE MARCH TO FREEDOM—2
A Nation Awakes

Lord Curzon partitioned Bengal and united the people of India. When appeals and petitions failed, the people of Bengal resolved to fight. The weapon they chose was swadeshi and the blow was aimed at European business interests. The movement spread across the state boundary and soon the cry, VANDE MATARAM, came to be heard from Kanya Kumari to Kashmir.

The swadeshi movement exposed the inherent weakness of a foreign power governing India. It also helped the people to discover their strength. Swadeshi enterprise and national education were the direct offshoots of this movement.

The movement caused a vertical split in the Indian National Congress. The extremists—those who believed in agitating for their rights—parted company from the moderates, who continued to believe in petitions to the government. This period also witnessed a spurt in revolutionary activities. And perhaps, a more tragic development was the communal colour given to the conflict between the landlords and peasants in Bengal.

In spite of these internal differences, the people of India continued the struggle till the partition of Bengal was annulled.

We have referred, among others, to the following books in preparing this volume:

1. Communalism in Modern India—*Bipan Chandra 1984.*
2. Gopal Krishna Gokhale—*T.V. Parvate 1959.*
3. History & Culture of the Indian People, Volume XI—Gen. Ed. *R.C. Majumdar, 1969.*
4. History of the Freedom Movement in India Volume III—*Tara Chand, 1972.*
5. India Under Morley & Minto—*M.N. Das, 1964*
6. Indian Unrest—*Chirol Valentine, 1910*
7. India Wins Freedom—*Maulana Azad, 1959.*
8. Lokamanya *Tilak—Dhananjay Keer, 1959*
9. Muslim Politics, 1906—1946—*Humayun Kabir, 1969.*
10. Speeches of Gokhale, 1966.
11. The Swadeshi Movement in Bengal, 1903-1908, *Sumit Sarkar, 1973.*

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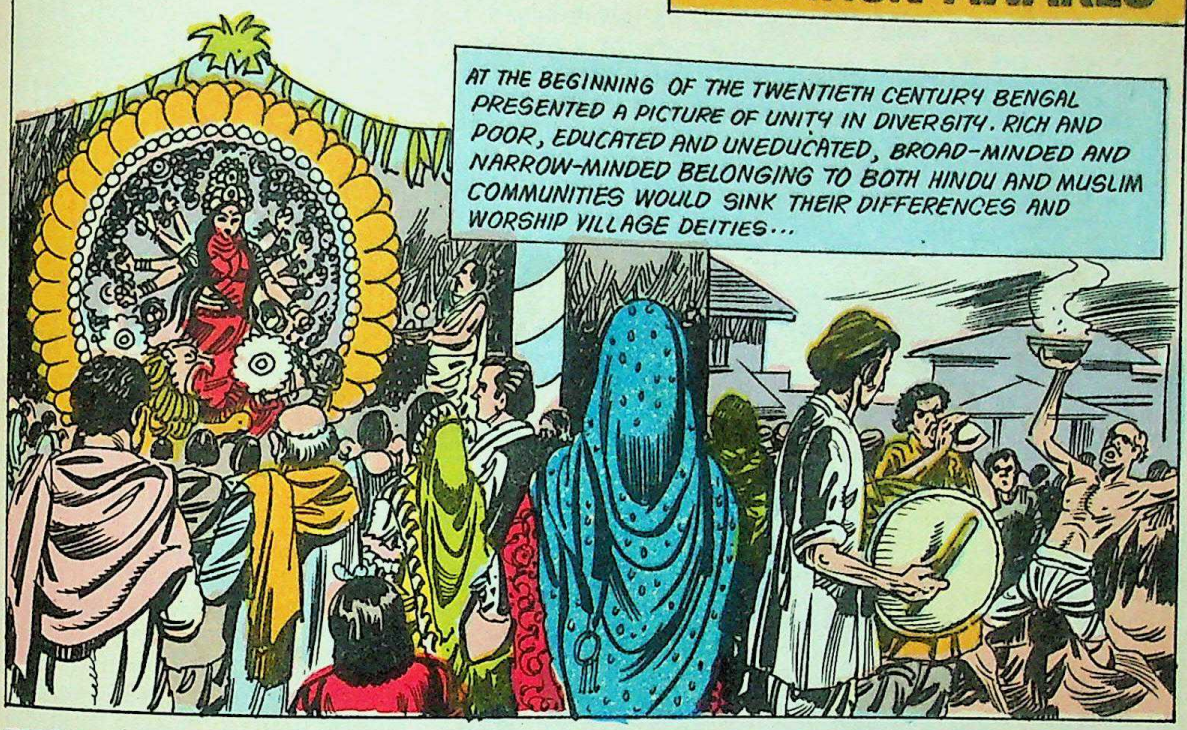
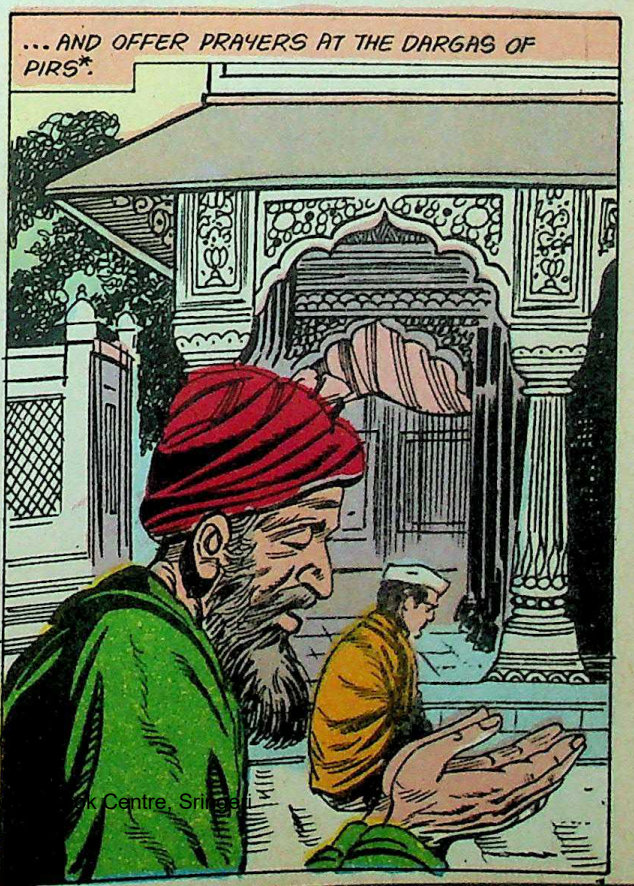
A NATION AWAKES





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AND BENGALIS WERE A HIGHLY POLITICALLY CONSCIOUS PEOPLE.

RAJA MANSINGH, WHO CARRIED THE MUGHAL STANDARD FROM THE PUNJAB IN THE EAST TO KABUL IN THE WEST, BECAME A HINDU GOVERNOR IN THE HEART OF A MOHAMMEDAN POPULATION.

WHERE IS THE INDIAN GOVERNOR OF A BRITISH PROVINCE? WHERE IS THE INDIAN COMMANDER OF A BRITISH DIVISION? WHERE IS THE INDIAN ADVISER OF A BRITISH VICEROY?

LORD CURZON, THE BRITISH VICEROY, HAD OF COURSE NO INTENTION OF APPOINTING OUR COUNTRYMEN TO HIGH PUBLIC OFFICES.

THE HIGHEST RANKS OF CIVIL EMPLOYMENT IN INDIA MUST BE HELD BY ENGLISHMEN FOR THE REASON THAT...

...THEY POSSESS PARTLY BY HEREDITY, PARTLY BY UPBRINGING, PARTLY BY EDUCATION, THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT, THE HABITS OF MIND, AND THE VIGOUR OF CHARACTER WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THE TASK.

SURENDRANATH BANERJI — POPULARLY KNOWN AS 'SURRENDER-NOT-BANERJI' THUNDERED —

I PROTEST AGAINST THIS ASSUMPTION OF OUR RACIAL INFERIORITY. ARE INDIANS INFERIOR TO EUROPEANS?

NO! NO! NO!

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THE GROWING EXPECTATIONS OF OUR COUNTRYMEN CAUSED DISMAY AMONG BRITISH OFFICIALS.

THE REAL DANGER TO OUR RULE IN INDIA COMES FROM THE EDUCATED INDIANS WHEN THEY ADOPT WESTERN IDEAS OF AGITATION...

BENGALIS! THEY ARE THE CHIEF CULPRITS.

THE BRITISH OFFICIALS REVIVED THE PROPOSAL OF REORGANIZATION OF PROVINCES.

TRANSFER EAST BENGAL TO ASSAM AND FORM A NEW PROVINCE OF EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM. MUSLIMS WILL FORM THE MAJORITY IN THE NEW PROVINCE.

AND IN THE OLD PROVINCE BENGALIS WILL BE OUTNUMBERED BY BIHARIS AND ORIYAS.

BENGAL UNITED IS A POWER. BENGAL DIVIDED WILL PULL IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS.

OUR BENGALI BRETHREN HELD PROTEST MEETINGS. THEY SENT A PETITION SIGNED BY OVER 75,000 PEOPLE TO THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT IN LONDON. THEY TOOK OUT PROCESSIONS.

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BUT LORD CURZON REMAINED UNMOVED.

IF WE SHOW OUR WEAKNESS BY YIELDING TO THEIR CLAMOUR WE SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO DIVIDE BENGAL.

BIPIN CHANDRA PAL, ONE OF THE LEADERS, WAS A BITTER MAN.

IF ANYTHING COULD PROVE THE UTTER FUTILITY OF OUR SO-CALLED METHODS OF CONSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL AGITATION... THE HISTORY OF THE AGITATION AGAINST THE PROPOSAL TO PARTITION BENGAL HAS DONE IT.

HOWEVER, POET RABINDRANATH TAGORE REMAINED COOL!

IF A TREE WERE TO PLEAD WITH THE MAN—YOUR BLOWS WILL KILL ME—WOULD IT BE SPARED?

TURN AWAY FROM OLD-STYLE POLITICS, TRYING IN VAIN TO PLACATE THE FOREIGN RULER AND TALKING BIG IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE. GO TO THE VILLAGES.

TILL THEN THE USUAL PRACTICE WAS TO HOLD MEETINGS IN CALCUTTA AND OTHER TOWNS, SUBMIT PETITIONS IN ENGLISH AND DELIVER TALKS IN ENGLISH.

VOLUNTEERS BEGAN TO MOBILIZE PUBLIC OPINION IN VILLAGES AND SMALL TOWNS.

FIRANGEES ARE A NATION OF MERCHANTS. THEY UNDERSTAND ONE LANGUAGE. BOYCOTT.

BOYCOTT MANCHESTER CLOTH. PRACTISE SWADESHI... WE WILL UNITE DIVIDED BENGAL.

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PRAYERS AGAINST PARTITION WERE HELD IN MOSQUES IN MYMENSINGH, BARISAL AND SERAMPORE...

...AND AT KALIGHAT TEMPLE, CALCUTTA—

MOTHER, STANDING BEFORE YOUR HOLY PRESENCE I TAKE A VOW TO BOYCOTT FOREIGN GOODS AND ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SWADESHI.

HINDU AND MUSLIM STUDENTS OF CALCUTTA MARCHED HAND IN HAND AND HELD A 10,000-STRONG RALLY WHERE THEIR LEADER, ABDUL RASUL DECLARED—

WE, BOTH HINDUS AND MUSLIMS, BELONG TO THE SAME MOTHER—BENGAL.

BUT CURZON HAD OTHER IDEAS.

THE PARTITION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SIXTEENTH OCTOBER.*

AND POET RABINDRANATH SPOKE FOR ALL BENGAL—

WE WILL OBSERVE SIXTEENTH OCTOBER NOT AS PARTITION DAY BUT AS UNITY DAY.

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16TH OCTOBER, 1905. MEN AND WOMEN, RICH AND POOR, HINDUS AND MUSLIMS WALKED BAREFOOT TO THE BANKS OF THE GANGA AND EXCHANGED RAKHIS.

BROTHERS, LET US REMAIN UNITED!

RABINDRANATH TAGORE DASHED INTO THE NAKHODA MASJID ...

... EMBRACED THE MULLAS AND TIED RAKHIS TO THEIR WRISTS.

BROTHERS, LIVE UNITED.

BANDE MATARAM

RAKHIS WERE TIED TO THE POLICEMEN AND EVEN TO THE EUROPEANS.

BROTHERS, LIVE UNITED!

BANDE MATARAM

BANDE MATARAM.

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A CHAIN OF SWADESHI STORES CAME INTO EXISTENCE ALL OVER BENGAL. HOWEVER, SOME UNSCRUPULOUS TRADERS DID NOT HESITATE TO HIKE THE PRICE OF SWADESHI GOODS THAT WERE SCARCE.

YOU HAVE TO PAY MORE IF YOU WANT SWADESHI GOODS.

TO PUT A STOP TO MALPRACTICES SEVERAL SAMITIS WERE FORMED. SCHOOL AND COLLEGE BOYS SOLD GOODS AT COST PRICE.

GOD BLESS YOU, SON. AT LAST I GOT THE SWADESHI GOODS AT A FAIR PRICE.

THE SAMITIS ORGANIZED MEETINGS, TOOK OUT PROCESSIONS, DISTRIBUTED PATRIOTIC LITERATURE.

BANDE MATARAM.

BANDE MATARAM

FULLER, THE LT. GOVERNOR OF THE NEW PROVINCE OF EAST BENGAL, WAS ALARMED.

STUDENTS ARE THE BACKBONE OF THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT. WE MUST PREVENT THEM FROM JOINING IT.

THE HEADMASTERS OF SCHOOLS RECEIVED CIRCULARS FROM THE GOVERNMENT ASKING THEM TO TAKE STRICT ACTION AGAINST OFFENDING STUDENTS.

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KALIPRASANNA DASGUPTA, THE HEADMASTER OF MADARIPUR SCHOOL, CALLED A MEETING OF HIS STUDENTS.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS BANNED THE RAISING OF THE SLOGAN— BANDE MATARAM.

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY. AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED I HAVE ONLY TWO WORDS TO SAY.

BANDE MATARAM.

STUDENTS CHEERED THEIR HEADMASTER AND RESPONDED IN SIMILAR WORDS.

BANDE MATARAM

IT IS NEEDLESS TO SAY THAT DASGUPTA LOST HIS JOB.

AT RANGPUR* 263 BOYS WHO DEFIED THE GOVERNMENT ORDER AND ATTENDED SWADESHI MEETINGS WERE THROWN OUT OF THE SCHOOL.

WE ARE HAPPY WE DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL.

WE WANT SWADESHI SCHOOLS WHERE PATRIOTISM IS NOT CONSIDERED A CRIME.

RANGPUR HAD THE DISTINCTION OF SETTING UP THE FIRST NATIONAL SCHOOL.

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* NOW IN BANGLA DESH

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NATIONAL SCHOOLS SPRANG UP IN CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES. AT RAMARA IN FARIDPUR, CLASSES WERE HELD AT THE HOUSE OF A MUSLIM...

COME, CHILDREN, COME.

...AND IN DHALGRAM THE NATIONAL SCHOOL WAS THROWN OPEN TO NAMASHUDRAS.*

IN CALCUTTA TWO INSTITUTIONS CAME INTO BEING — THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATION AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION. THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS BOYCOTTED OFFICIAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND SOUGHT ADMISSION TO NATIONAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

OUR COURSE IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT. YOU WILL NOT GET JOBS IN THE GOVERNMENT.

I HAVE NO INTENTION OF BECOMING A GUMASTA IN A GOVERNMENT OFFICE, SIR.

AND POET RABINDRANATH CONTINUED HIS WORK AT SANTINIKETAN.

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* A SEC... STATUS BY THEIR LONG ASSOCIATION WITH 11

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Sri Vidyaranya Sanskrit Research Centre, Sringeri

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WHEN LORD CURZON WAS SUCCEEDED BY LORD MINTO, OUR BENGALI BRETHREN HOPED THAT THE NEW VICEROY WOULD TAKE NOTE OF POPULAR DISCONTENT AND ANNOUNCE ANNULMENT OF PARTITION. HOWEVER WHEN A DELEGATION CALLED ON HIM —

I AM EXTREMELY SORRY, GENTLEMEN. PARTITION IS A SETTLED FACT. WE CANNOT REOPEN THE QUESTION.

LORD MINTO'S REPLY MADE PEOPLE EVEN MORE FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY. A HUGE FIRE WAS LIT AT COLLEGE SQUARE IN CALCUTTA.

THE ONLOOKERS THREW DOWN INTO THE FIRE CHUDDARS, SALWARS, SHOES, CIGARETTES— ANYTHING MANUFACTURED BY THE BRITISH.

PEOPLE INTENSIFIED THE AGITATION. THE GOAL NOW WAS FREEDOM FROM THE BRITISH RULE AS POINTED OUT BY BIPIN CHANDRA PAL AND AUROBINDO.

OUR IDEAL IS FREEDOM WHICH MEANS ABSENCE OF FOREIGN CONTROL.

THE NEW MOVEMENT IS NOT PRIMARILY A PROTEST AGAINST BAD GOVERNMENT. IT IS A PROTEST AGAINST THE CONTINUANCE OF BRITISH CONTROL, WHETHER THAT CONTROL IS USED WELL OR ILL, JUSTLY OR UNJUSTLY, IS A MINOR AND INESSENTIAL CONSIDERATION.

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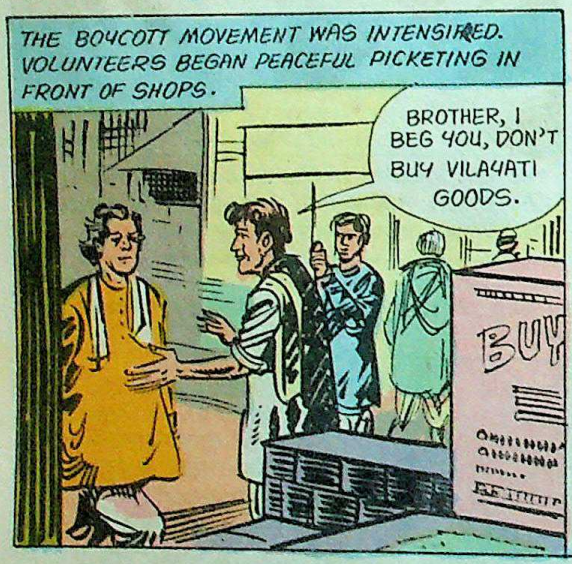

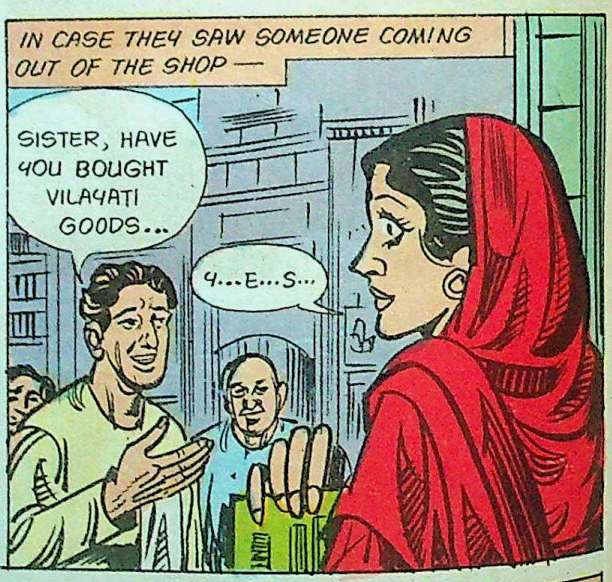

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CONTD. ON PAGE NO 19

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"Yes, it's me—
in an ad for a white shoe cleaner.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre, Sri

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Now, ask me why!"

"19 years ago, I was sent off the field for turning up in dirty white shoes. I learnt my lesson that day—you must first look like a sportsman before you can call yourself a sportsman!

Okay, so maybe there are people who think it isn't important to look like a sportsman. But ask any dedicated sportsman and he'll never tell you that! Because he's as particular about his kit and dress as he is about his game.

That's why, to my mind, if you care for the game, you'll always care about the way you dress for it—down to the last detail.

So, tell me then, can your kit really be complete without a white shoe cleaner? Go on, ask a sportsman!

Be a sportsman... down to your feet!"

CHERRY WHITE CLEANER

Sri Vi

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FULLER, THE LT. GOVERNOR OF THE NEW PROVINCE OF EAST BENGAL, DID NOT HESITATE TO ADOPT RUTHLESS MEASURES TO BREAK THE AGITATION.

YOU WILL SEE TO IT THAT NO ONE RAISES THE CRY BANDE MATARAM.

URCHINS WHO SHOUTED BANDE MATARAM WERE GIVEN A CHASE...

BANDE MATARAM

...CAUGHT...

BANDE MATARAM

...AND FLOGGED.

BANDE MATARAM

DO YOU SEE WHAT IS WRITTEN ON THE WALL... PULL DOWN THAT HOUSE.

BANDE MATARAM

IN SPITE OF SUCH HARSH MEASURES PEOPLE REFUSED TO BOW DOWN BEFORE FULLER. AT BARISAL —

WE WILL HOLD A PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON APRIL 14TH AND 15TH.

Sri Vidyabharathi ... Singeri

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ON THE 14TH THE DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE TOOK OUT A PROCESSION. BARRISTER ABDUL RASUL WAS TO BE THE PRESIDENT. HE WAS IN A CARRIAGE WITH HIS ENGLISH WIFE. SURENDRANATH AND OTHERS FOLLOWED THE CARRIAGE ON FOOT.

BANDE MATARAM

THE POLICE ALLOWED THE LEADERS TO PASS UNMOLESTED. HOWEVER THEY RAISED THEIR LATHIS AS THE YOUNGER DELEGATES PASSED BY.

BANDE MATARAM

A VOLUNTEER CALLED CHITTARANJAN WAS BODILY THROWN INTO A TANK FILLED WITH WATER...

BANDE MATARAM

...AND LATHI BLOWS WERE SHOWERED ON THE YOUNG MAN STRUGGLING IN THE TANK.

BANDE MATARAM

HEARING THE COMMOTION AT THE BACK SURENDRANATH TURNED BACK.

WHY ARE YOU THRASHING THEM? I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR BEHAVIOUR. ARREST ME, IF YOU LIKE.

YOU ARE MY PRISONER, SIR.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre, Srirangam

THE MARCH TO FREEDOM
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SURENDRANATH WAS TAKEN PRISONER AND LATER SET FREE. ON HIS WAY BACK TO CALCUTTA HE RECEIVED AN ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME AT EVERY STATION. WHEN HE REACHED CALCUTTA IT WAS JUST BEFORE DAY-BREAK. OVER TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE GREETED HIM.

THE EXCITED YOUNGSTERS UNHORSED THE CARRIAGE AND DREW IT TO COLLEGE SQUARE WHERE HE ADDRESSED A MEETING.

THE BARISAL INCIDENT ELECTRIFIED THE NATION. AND LORD MINTO RECEIVED A STRONG NOTE FROM THE GOVERNMENT IN ENGLAND.

WHAT WAS THE CASE? PARTITION WAS UNPOPULAR. HOW COULD YOU PROCURE AN ABATEMENT? CLEARLY BY TRYING TO GIVE AGITATORS AS LITTLE TO CRY OUT ABOUT AS POSSIBLE.

FULLER IS A FOOL.

HOWEVER, THE SITUATION HAD GONE OUT OF CONTROL. LORD MINTO ISSUED AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE RIGHT TO HOLD MEETINGS. BUT THE AGITATORS WERE READY WITH AN ANSWER.

ONLY MEETINGS ARE BANNED. NOT SINGING. NOT FESTIVALS. NOT PLAYS.

THE SPEAKER WAS LIAKAT HUSAIN.

Sri Vidyabhavan Research Centre, Sringeri

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BOYS TRAINED BY LIAKAT HUSAIN, HIMSELF A MELODIOUS SINGER, WENT ROUND SINGING SONGS...

THE TIGHTER THEIR NOOSE, THE EASIER WOULD IT BE TO BREAK// THE EASIER FOR US TO BE FREE// THE MORE THEIR EYES TURN RED, THE MORE OUR EYES WILL OPEN// MORE OPEN WILL OUR EYES BE//

...WHICH THE COMMON FOLK BEGAN TO HUM.

ARE YOU SO STRONG TO SEVER THE CHAIN OF DESTINY?// OH! YOU THINK YOU ARE SO STRONG!// THE PRIDE TO BREAK AND MAKE OUR LIVES AT WILL// OH! TO BE SO PROUD YOU LONG!//

LET THE EARTH AND THE WATER AND THE AIR AND THE FRUITS OF BENGAL BE HOLY, MY LORD!// LET THE LIVES AND THE MINDS OF ALL THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF BENGAL BE ONE, MY LORD!//

LET'S ACCEPT WITH REVERENCE, THE COARSE CLOTH THAT OUR MOTHER GIVES US!// SHE IS DRAINED OF HER RICHES, MY BROTHERS// THAT'S ALL SHE CAN AFFORD TO GIVE US//

THE BEAUTY, THE SHADE, THE LOVE, THE TENDERNESS// IN THY LOVING ARMS BECKONING TO US, SPREAD FOR US// UNDER YOUR TREES AND ON THE BANKS OF YOUR RIVERS!//

Bharatiya Book Centre, Srinagar

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Vyabharathi Book Centre, Srinagar

* A FORM OF FOLK-THEATRE IN WHICH PERFORMERS COMMUNICATE

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AROUND THIS TIME PEASANTS WORKING FOR ZAMINDARS WERE A WRETCHED LOT ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF THE EXORBITANT RENTS THEY WERE FORCED TO PAY. SEVERAL PAMPHLETS CAME TO BE CIRCULATED AMONG THEM.

NOW THESE FIRANGEES, SONS OF DEVILS, DIVIDE THIS GOLDEN BENGAL... WE HINDUS AND MOHAMMEDANS JOINTLY WORSHIP THE FEET OF THE MOTHER. ...WE MUST NOT PAY ENHANCED RATES.

THE DISCONTENT AMONG THE PEASANTS — A MAJORITY OF THEM HAPPENED TO BE MUSLIMS — IN THE NEW PROVINCE MADE LT. GOVERNOR HARE, FULLER'S SUCCESSOR, HAPPY. HE WROTE TO LORD MINTO —

I BELIEVE THE MOHAMMEDANS WILL UNITE TO A MAN AND WILL ABSOLUTELY BOYCOTT HINDUS, IF SO ORDERED BY THEIR LEADERS.

HARE MET SEVERAL MUSLIM ZAMINDARS AND MULLAS

AS CURZON SAAB SAID THIS NEW PROVINCE IS CREATED SPECIALLY TO SAFEGUARD YOUR INTERESTS. YOU MUST SPEAK UP IN FAVOUR OF PARTITION.

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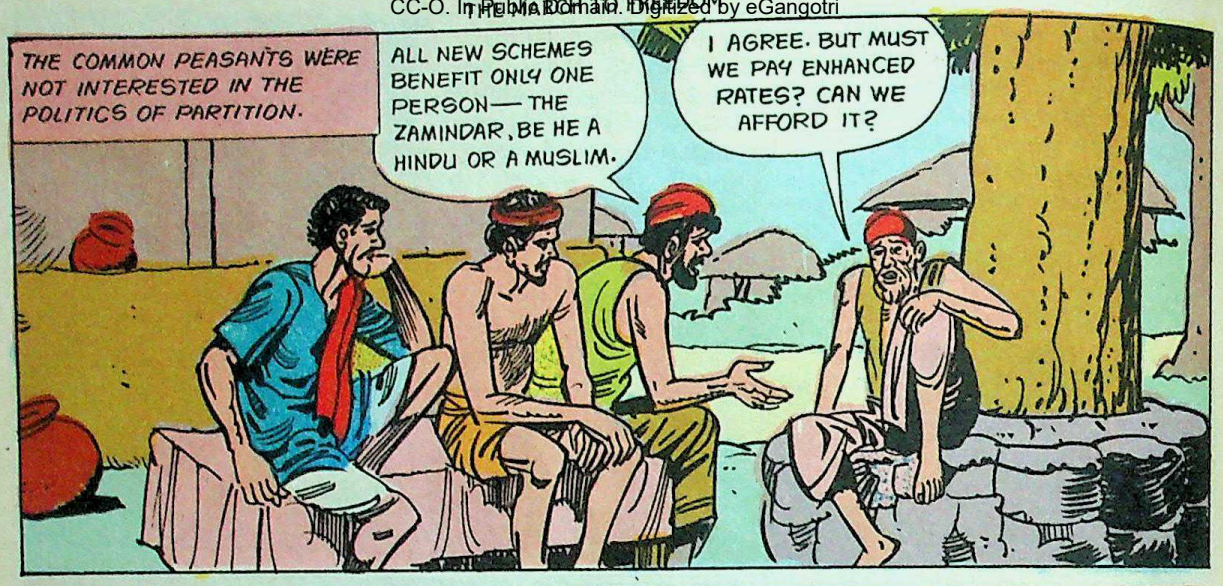

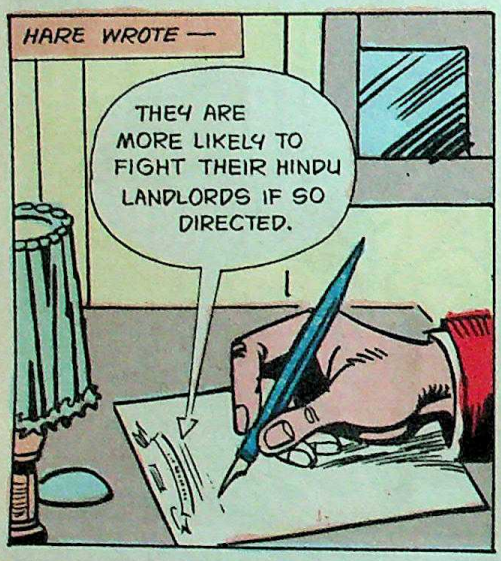

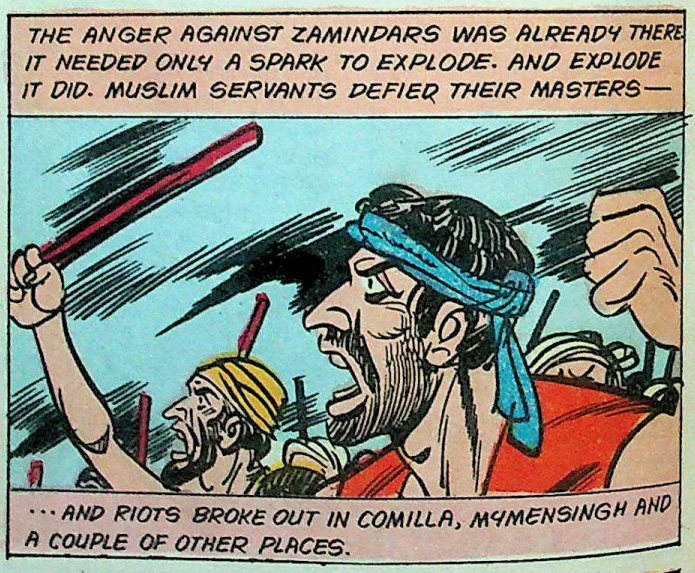

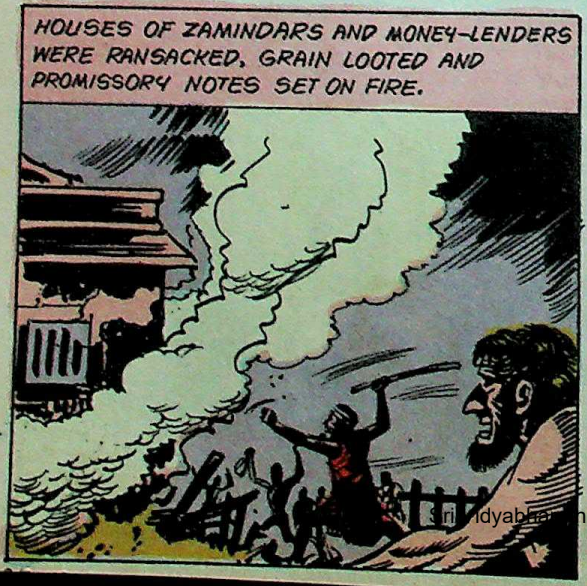

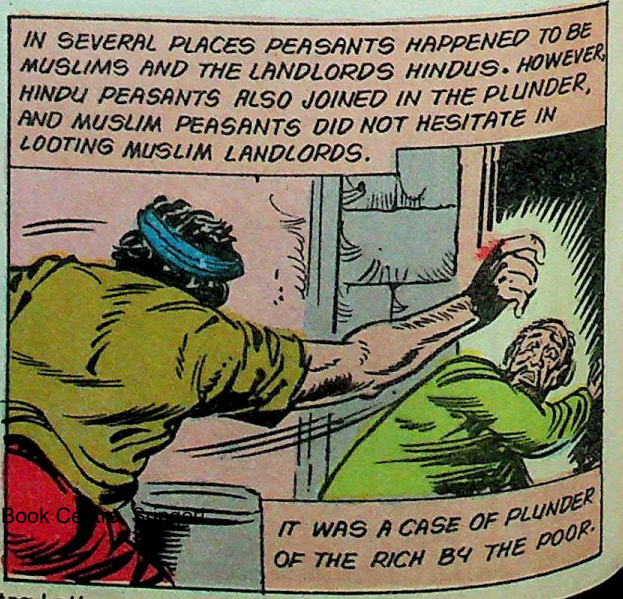

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ON HEARING THE NEWS OF THE RIOTS, LIAKAT HUSAIN RUSHED TO MYMENSINGH.

NO. WE WILL NOT PERMIT YOU TO TALK TO ANYONE. FIRST WE HAVE TO SEARCH YOU.

THE POLICE FOUND URDU PAMPHLETS.

THESE URGE THE MUSLIMS TO STOP ASSAULTING HINDUS AND INSTEAD UNITE TO FIGHT THE COMMON ENEMY — THE FIRANGEES.

THROW HIM INTO PRISON.

THE BRITISH OFFICIALS WERE HAPPY.

THE RIOTS PROVE ONE THING. MUSLIMS ARE IN FAVOUR OF PARTITION.

SEVERAL NATIONAL LEADERS BLAMED THE GOVERNMENT FOR INCITING THE MUSLIMS.

THEY WANT TO DIVIDE US SO THAT THEY CAN RULE.

TAGORE DECLARED —

THAT THE MUSLIMS COULD BE USED AGAINST THE HINDUS IS A REALLY WORRYING FACT. WHO USED THEM IS NOT IMPORTANT.

A GREAT OCEAN SEPARATED US EDUCATED FEW FROM MILLIONS IN OUR COUNTRY... COME DOWN INTO THE MIDST OF THE PEOPLE... SO THAT HIGH AND LOW, HINDUS AND MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS CAN COME TOGETHER, MINGLING HEART WITH HEART, EFFORT WITH EFFORT.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre, Sringeri

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THE BOYCOTT OF EUROPEAN GOODS CONTINUED. THOSE WHO REFUSED TO OBSERVE SWADESHI HAD TO FACE SOCIAL OSTRACIZATION.

NO, BABU. I WON'T WASH VILAYATI CLOTHES.

THIS IS A VILAYATI SHOE, ISN'T IT? SORRY, SIR. I CAN'T TOUCH IT.

I AM SORRY, SIR. I CANNOT GIVE YOU A HAIR CUT. YOU DO NOT WEAR SWADESHI.

AMMA, I HAVE NO FRIENDS. NO ONE WANTS TO PLAY WITH ME. THEY SAY WE USE VILAYATI GOODS. AMMA... PLEASE.

HOW CAN WE CONSIDER A MARRIAGE ALLIANCE WITH YOUR FAMILY? YOU DON'T OBSERVE SWADESHI, DO YOU?

THERE WERE CASES OF POOR PEOPLE SUFFERING ON ACCOUNT OF THE BOYCOTT.

SWADESHI MAAL IS EXPENSIVE. I CANNOT AFFORD IT. YET I HAVE TO BUY IT OUT OF FEAR.

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MEANWHILE A FEW YOUNG MEN WERE GETTING IMPATIENT. THEY FORMED REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS AND DECIDED TO STRIKE ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW THEY WERE NO MATCH FOR THE BRITISH POWER.

THE FIRST EVER BOMB WAS EXPLODED BY KHUDIRAM BOSE ON APRIL 30, 1908.

MANY REVOLUTIONARIES WERE ROUNDED UP AND AUROBINDO GHOSH WAS ALSO IMPLICATED IN THE CASE. HIS FRIEND C.R.DAS SAID IN THE COURT.

MY APPEAL TO YOU THEREFORE IS THAT A MAN LIKE THIS... STANDS TRIAL NOT ONLY BEFORE THIS BAR, BUT BEFORE THE HIGH COURT OF HISTORY. LONG AFTER THIS CONTROVERSY IS HUSHED... THE WORLD WILL LOOK UPON HIM AS A PROPHET OF NATIONALISM AND A LOVER OF HUMANITY.

IN PUNE, TILAK WROTE AN EDITORIAL ON THE 'BOMB CASE'.

केसरी.

"THE BOMB PARTY HAS COME INTO EXISTENCE AS A RESULT OF THE OPPRESSION PRACTISED BY THE OFFICIAL CLASS... THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS CALAMITY MUST, THEREFORE, BE THROWN NOT ON POLITICAL AGITATION, WRITINGS, OR SPEECHES BUT ON THE THOUGHTLESSNESS AND THE OBSTINACY OF THE OFFICIAL CLASS."

THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTED TILAK ON THE CHARGES OF SEDITION.

...FOR ME IT CAN ONLY BE A MATTER OF A FEW YEARS, BUT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL LOOK TO YOUR VERDICT AND SEE WHETHER YOU HAVE JUDGED WRONG OR RIGHT. THE VERDICT MAY LIKELY BE A MEMORABLE ONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE FREEDOM OF THE INDIAN PRESS...

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TILAK WAS SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS' DEPORTATION. ON THE DAY THE JUDGEMENT WAS ANNOUNCED, MILL WORKERS IN BOMBAY DECIDED TO STRIKE WORK. THE STRIKE LASTED FOR SIX DAYS.

MILLS L

TILAK WAS DEPORTED TO MANDALAY. "VANDE MATARAM" WROTE :

GO, TILAK, WHEREVER YOU MAY BE SENT TO CRUSH YOUR BODY... THE CANKER OF THE CHAINS WILL NOT ONLY EAT INTO YOUR LIMBS BUT ALSO INTO EVERY HEART OF THE COUNTRY TO STIR IT UP TO ITS DUTY. YOU HAVE FULFILLED YOUR MISSION...

SIMILARLY NINE REVOLUTIONARIES OF BENGAL WERE DEPORTED. BUT THE REVOLUTIONARIES BETRAYED NO FEAR. WHEN ULLASKAR DUTTA ON TRIAL FOR LIFE BROKE OUT INTO A PATRIOTIC SONG THE WHOLE COURT STOOD UP IN HIS HONOUR.

BLESSED IS MY BIRTH THAT I AM BORN IN THIS LAND. BLESSED IS MY LIFE, FOR I LOVE YOU, O MY MOTHERLAND.

ANOTHER REVOLUTIONARY, HEMACHANDRA LEFT FOR THE ANDAMANS WITH A SMILE ON HIS FACE.

Navajeevan Book Centre, Sringeri

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HOWEVER, THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT GRADUALLY LOST ITS VIGOUR. IN JUNE 1909 AUROBINDO STEPPED OUT OF THE PRISON...

...AND PAUSED FOR A WHILE. ONLY SILENCE GREETED HIM.

LATER HE SAID —

WHEN I WENT INTO JAIL THE WHOLE COUNTRY WAS ALIVE WITH THE CRY OF 'BANDE MATARAM'... WHEN I CAME OUT OF JAIL I LISTENED FOR THE CRY BUT THERE WAS INSTEAD, SILENCE.

OF COURSE THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT DID ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVE WHEN LORD HARDINGE, THE NEW VICEROY, REVOKED PARTITION ON ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE. THE SPIRIT OF SWADESHI AND BOYCOTT WOULD LATER BE REVIVED BY MAHATMA GANDHI. MEANWHILE POET RABINDRANATH URGED —

MOVE, O TREADERS OF LONG AND DIFFICULT PATH,
MOVE BY DAY AND MOVE BY NIGHT—
CARRY ON WITH YOUR VICTORY-MARCH.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre, Kanheri

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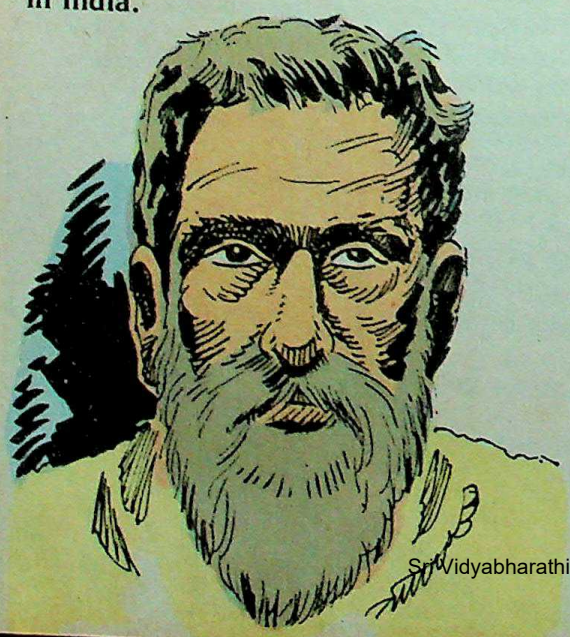
The Swadeshi Enterprise

The discovery of the steam engine which could haul railway carriages and run textile looms, marked the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in Europe in the eighteenth century. The British killed indigenous industry in India so that their manufacturers could find a ready market in our country. And they tried their best to keep India industrially backward and dependent on European countries for its requirements. However, in spite of their best efforts to keep India off the map of the industrial world, an industrial revolution, on a much smaller scale no doubt, did take place in 1905. If it was the power of steam that launched the Industrial Revolution in Europe, it was the power of swadeshi which launched it in India.



Long before the swadeshi movement was launched, our leaders like Romesh Chandra Dutt had been advocating swadeshi enterprise. Kishorilal Mukherji started the Sibpur Iron Works in 1867, and in the same year, a Hindu Mela was held in Calcutta to exhibit and sell swadeshi crafts. In 1893 Prafulla Chandra Ray started his company, Bengal Chemicals. Later, he said, "Our educated young men, the moment they came out of their colleges were on the look-out for a situation or a soft job under the Government, or failing that, in a European mercantile firm. The professions were becoming overcrowded. A few came out of the engineering college, but they too were helpless seekers after jobs.... What to do with all these young men? How to bring bread to the mouths of the ill-fed, famished young men of the middle classes?"

Prafulla Chandra Ray made a beginning by providing jobs for educated youth when he launched Bengal Chemicals. And a few mills which produced cotton yarn were functioning in Ahmedabad and Bombay long before 1905.

The swadeshi movement came as a shot in the arm for swadeshi enterprise. Our countrymen were convinced that they should patronise swadeshi goods in preference to foreign goods, even if they were more expensive and of inferior quality. With the boycott of foreign goods, there was a spurt in the demand for swadeshi goods, and men with ideas, money and enthusiasm, rose to the occasion. A chain of swadeshi emporiums started marketing swadeshi goods. There was a great demand for the mill yarn of Bombay and Ahmedabad. Brass and bell-metal utensils edged out those made of imported enamelled metals.

In the war of nibs, swadeshi nibs emerged victorious. Swadeshi teacups, saucers, tea-pots, inkpots and dolls, not only captured the hearts and purses of our countrymen, they also entered the foreign market! When the mind was full of swadeshi thoughts, could

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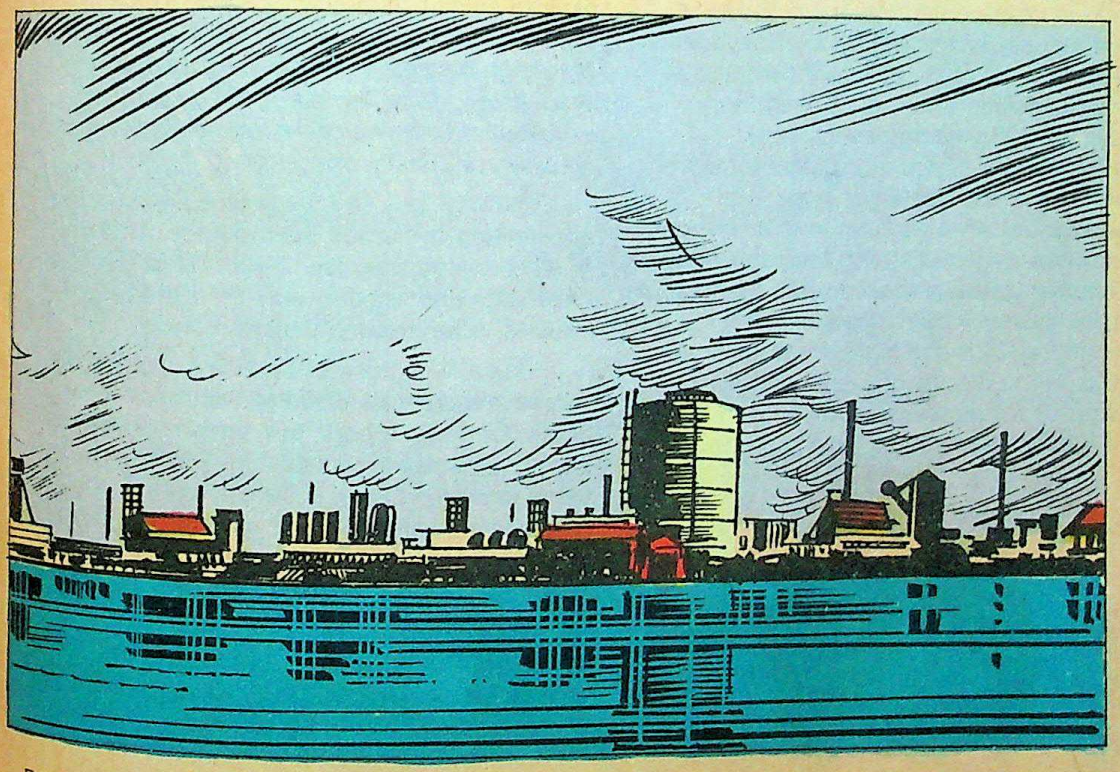
the body be cleansed with foreign soap? No. So foreign toilet soaps hastily made way for swadeshi soap. And sacred fires in sanctum sanctorums and the fires in kitchens came to be lit with swadeshi matchsticks. Even smokers chose to 'burn' swadeshi cigarettes! Paper, candles, sugar, bicycles began to be manufactured in our country *without* any support from the foreign government. Our entrepreneurs also entered the field of banking and insurance.



But the well-entrenched European companies put up a stiff fight. When Mohamed Kalamian launched the Bengal Steam Navigation Company in 1905, European navigation companies drastically reduced the rate for passengers. Jute mills owned by Europeans refused to buy cargo carried by swadeshi ships! Lack of technical know-how, lack of sufficient capital, stiff and unscrupulous competition from European companies and the apathy of the government, all combined to bring pressure on swadeshi enterprise. Many of these enterprises died. A few survived. Despite heavy odds, new indigenous companies did surface. One such was the Tata Iron & Steel Company in Jamshedpur.

On the political front, the swadeshi movement proved that Indians could fight injustice. On the economic front, it was proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that Indian scientists, engineers, technologists and workers were in no way inferior to their counterparts in Europe and America. Yet India remained industrially backward because the British rulers saw to it that it remained so. Our entrepreneurs realized that business and industry could not flourish unless the country became independent. What independence means to industrial growth and prosperity can be judged if we compare the state of our industry under British rule with the progress it has made since independence.

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Vivekananda taught Self-Esteem

Swami Vivekananda played a significant role in shaking his countrymen out of their deep slumber and inspired them with the ideals of freedom and liberty. In his whirlwind tour of the country from Kanya Kumari to Kashmir, he took the country by storm and his countrymen responded to his call—ARISE! AWAKE! STOP NOT TILL THE GOAL IS REACHED. Although he attained samadhi in 1902, his words continued to inspire his countrymen and the courage he instilled in their hearts found expression during the swadeshi movement.

Excerpts from Swami Vivekananda's writings:

A cloud of impenetrable darkness has at present equally enveloped us all. Now there is neither firmness of purpose nor boldness of enterprise, neither courage of heart, nor strength of mind, neither aversion to maltreatment by others, nor dislike for slavery, neither love in the heart, nor hope, nor manliness; but what we have in India are only deep-rooted envy and strong antipathy against one another, morbid desire to ruin by hook or by crook the weak, and dog-like to lick the feet of the strong. Now the highest satisfaction consists in the display of wealth and power, devotion of self-gratification, wisdom in the accumulation of transitory objects; yoga, in hideous diabolical practices; work, in the slavery of others; civilisation, in base imitation of foreign nations; eloquence, in the use of abusive language; the merit of literature, in extravagant flatteries of the rich or in the diffusion of ghastly obscenities!

...When I see Indians dressed in European apparel and costumes, the thought comes to my mind, perhaps they feel ashamed to own their nationality and kinship with the ignorant, poor, illiterate, downtrodden people of India!

...India! With this mere echoing of others, with this base imitation of others, with this dependence on others, this slavish weakness, this vile detestable cruelty—wouldst thou, with these provisions only, scale the highest pinnacle of civilisation and greatness?...wouldst thou attain, by means of thy disgraceful cowardice, that freedom deserved only by the brave and the heroic? O India! Forget not...

...that the lower classes, the ignorant, the poor, the illiterate, the cobbler, the sweeper, are thy flesh and blood, thy brothers. Thou brave one, be bold, take courage, be proud that thou art an Indian, and proudly proclaim: "I am an Indian, every Indian is my brother." Thou, too, clad with but a rag round thy loins, proudly proclaim at the top of thy voice: "The Indian is my brother, the Indian is my life, India's gods and goddesses are my God. India's society is the cradle of my infancy, pleasure garden of my youth, the sacred heaven, the Varanasi of my old age." Say, brother: "The soil of India is my highest heaven, the good of India is my good," and repeat and pray day and night, "O Thou Lord of Gauri, O Thou Mother of Strength, take away my weakness, take away my cowardliness, and make me a Man!"

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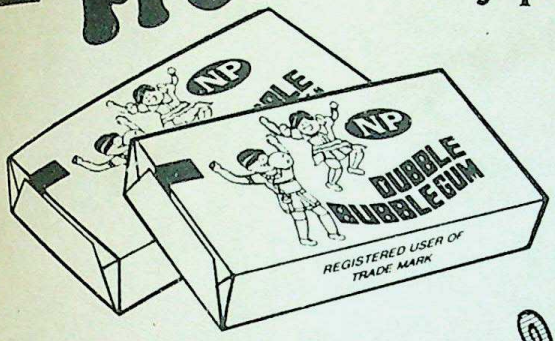
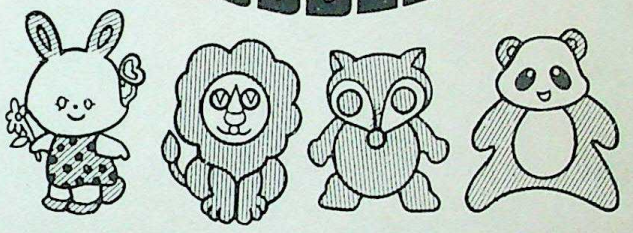
1 Free! Colourful dry transfers with every pack of



NP DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM



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A colourful dry transfer picture of an attractive cartoon character

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1. Remove the paper backing. Keep the transfer face upwards pressed flat on any surface you please.

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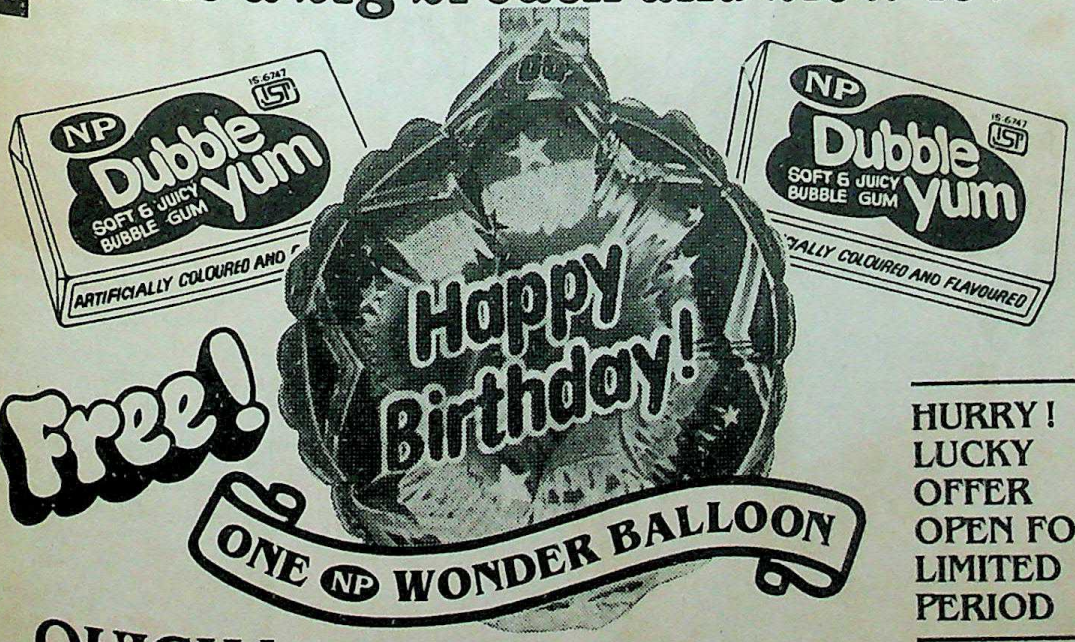

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ONE NP WONDER BALLOON

HURRY! LUCKY OFFER OPEN FOR LIMITED PERIOD

QUICK!

Collect your balloon on the spot from the dealer in exchange of Dubblevum New Lucky Coupon.

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Mahabharata–15

A Hall for Yudhishthira

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Amar Chitra Katha
No. 357 May 15, 1986

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Published by:
H.G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026
and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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Bombay 400 026.

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Admans Enterprises Inc.
1123 Broadway Suite 1010
New York N.Y. 10010

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Mahabharata—16

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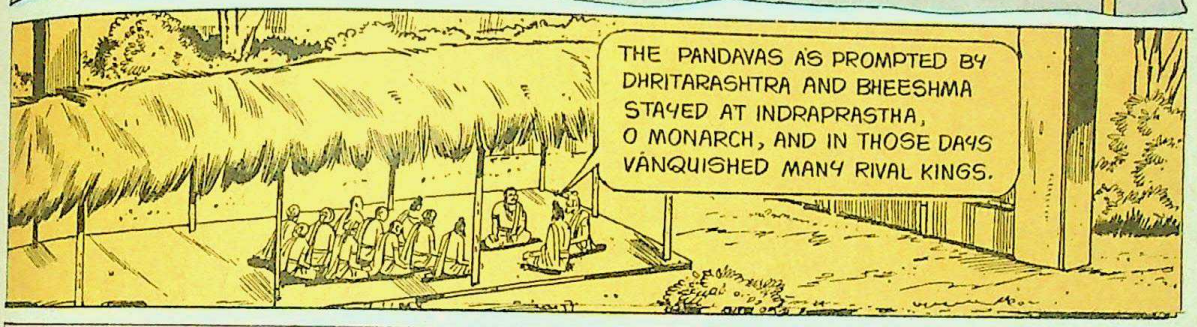
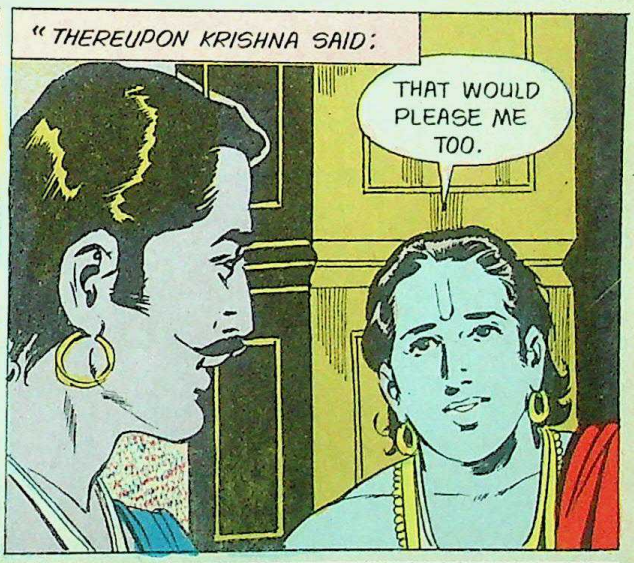
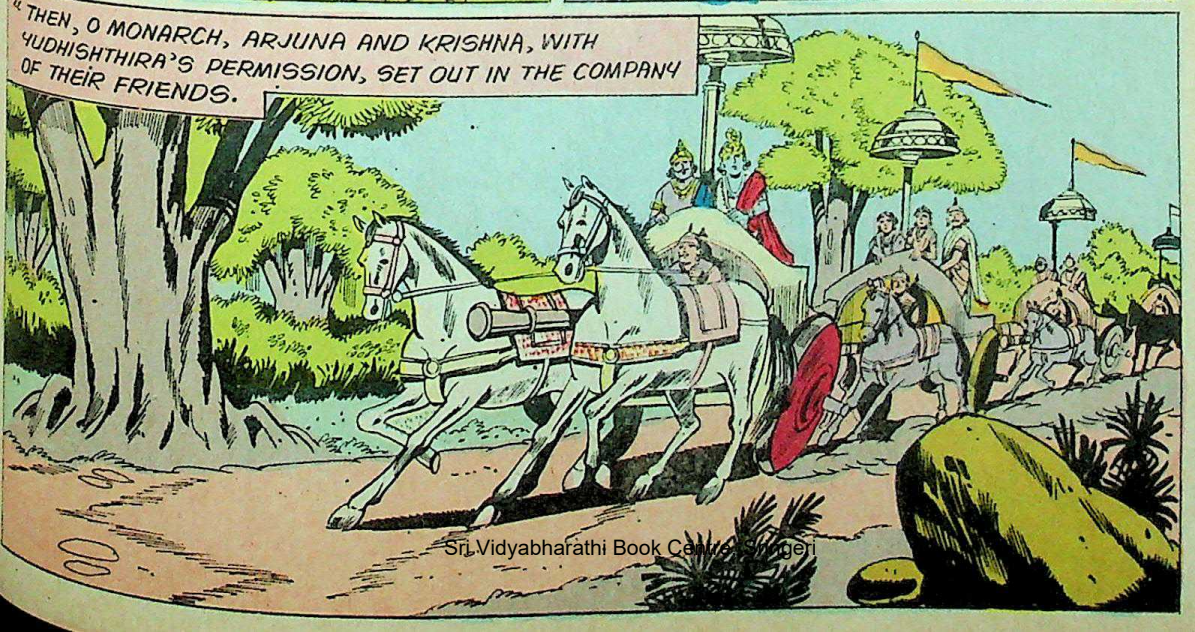
Mahabharata – 15

A HALL FOR YUDHISHTHIRA







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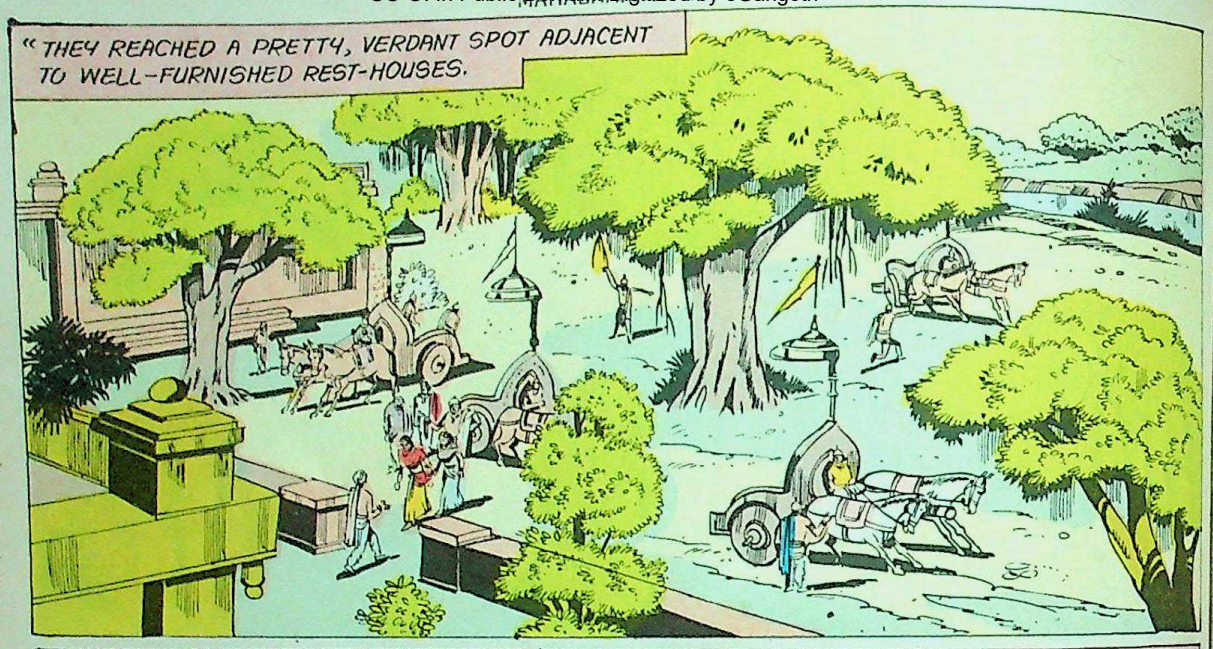

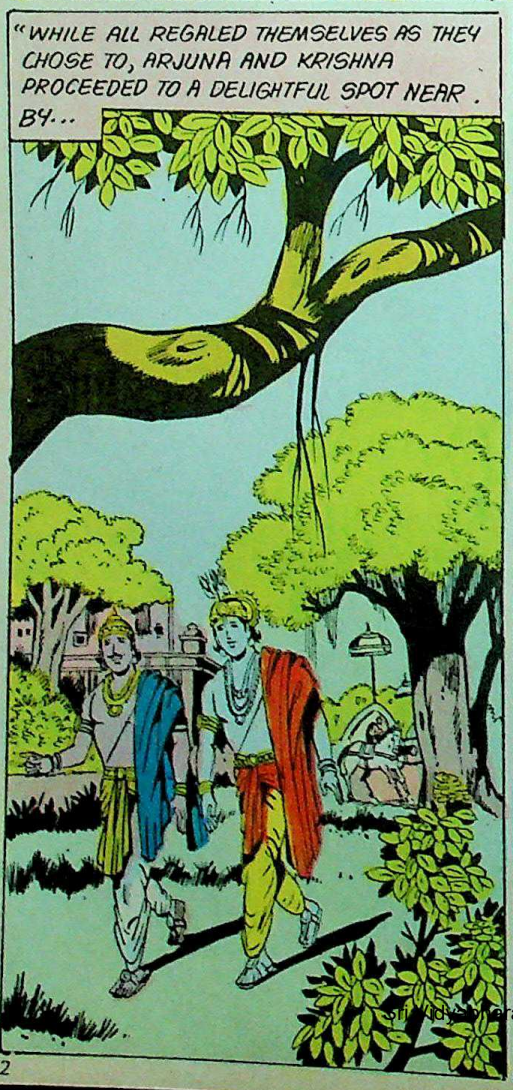

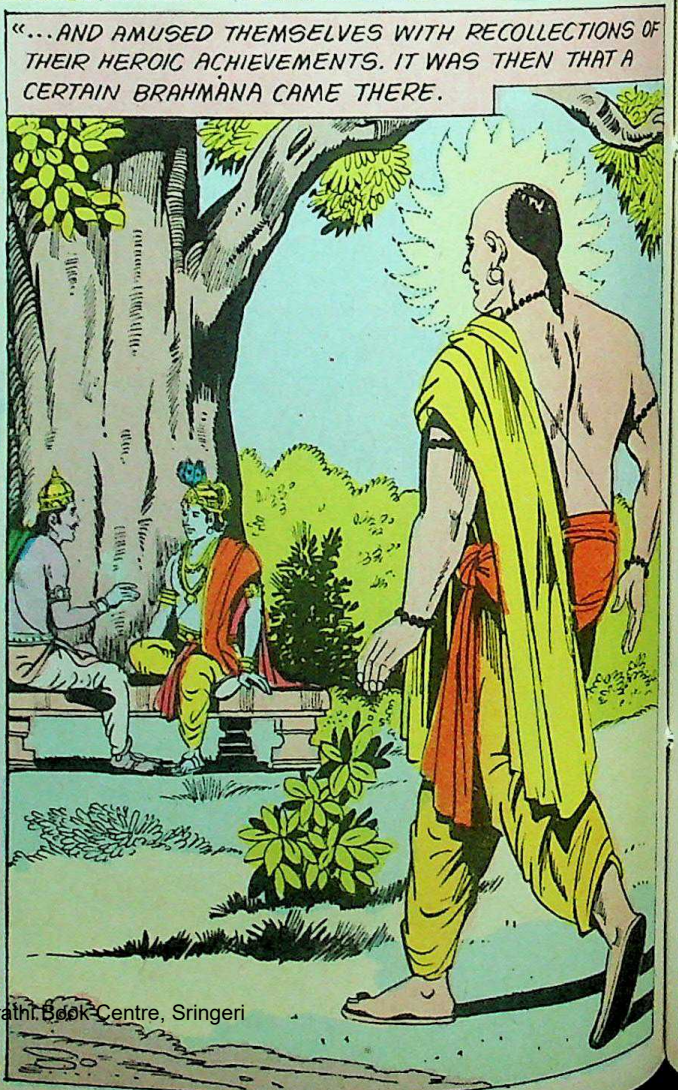

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"BEHOLDING HIM WHOSE VISAGE WAS RESPLENDENT LIKE BURNISHED GOLD...

"...ARJUNA AND KRISHNA ROSE HASTILY FROM THEIR SEATS...

"...AWAITING HIS COMMANDS. THEN THAT BRAHMANA SAID TO THEM:

I AM A BRAHMANA WHOSE HUNGER IS NOT EASILY SATIATED. I BEG OF YOU TO GIVE ME MY FILL OF FOOD THIS ONCE.

"ARJUNA AND KRISHNA REPLIED:

O BRAHMANA, TELL US WHAT FOOD WILL GIVE YOU CONTENTMENT AND WE SHALL STRIVE TO PROCURE IT.

"THE BRAHMANA SAID:

I DO NOT PARTAKE OF ORDINARY FOOD. I AM AGNI. I NEED FOOD THAT BEFITS ME.

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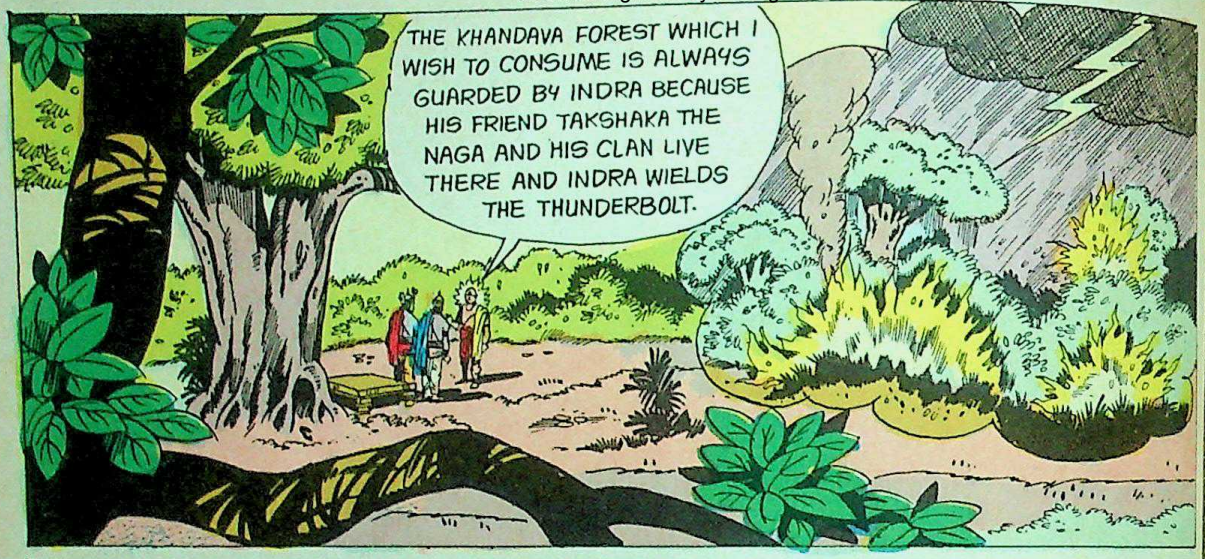

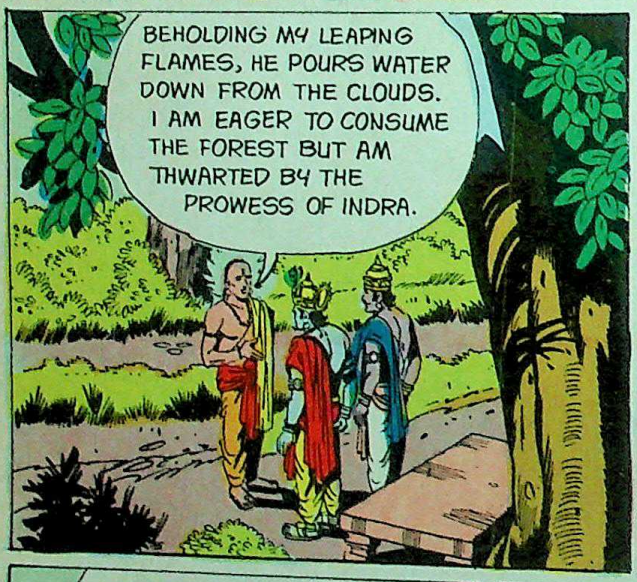

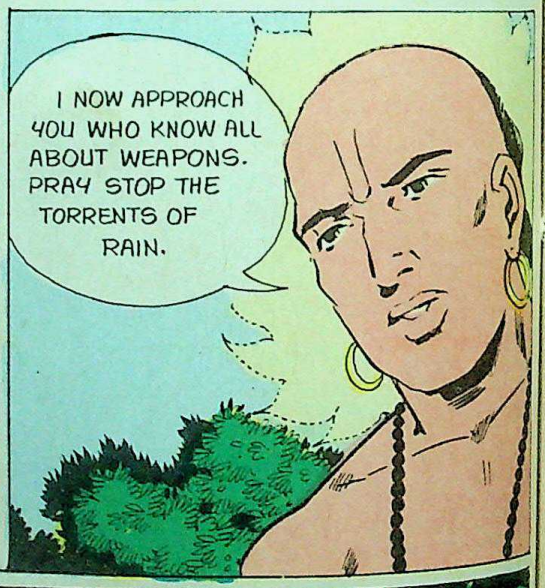

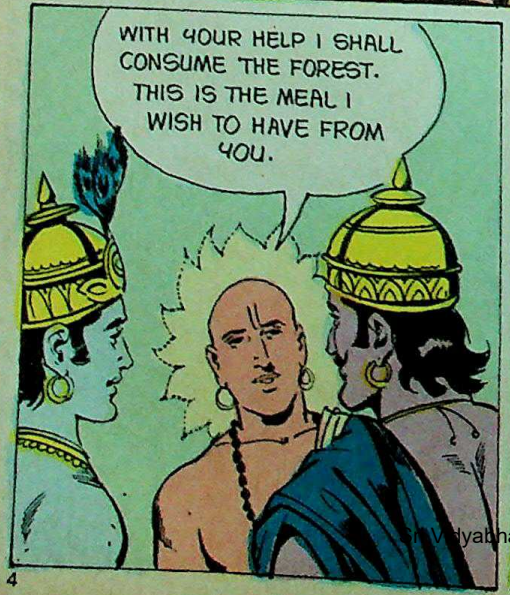

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THUS ADDRESSED BY ARJUNA, AGNI THOUGHT OF VARUNA, THE PRESIDING DEITY OF WATER AND A GUARDIAN OF THE UNIVERSE.

" AND VARUNA, DIVINING HIS THOUGHT, LOST NO TIME IN APPEARING BEFORE AGNI...

"...WHO SAID TO HIM:

HASTEN AND GIVE ME THE BOW, THE EVERFULL QUIVER AND THE CHARIOT MARKED BY ITS BANNER CARRYING THE EMBLEM OF THE APE— ALL GIVEN TO YOU BY THE KING SOMA.

ARJUNA WITH THAT GANDEEVA BOW WILL ACCOMPLISH A GREAT DEED AND SO WILL KRISHNA WITH THE DISCUS.

VARUNA, O MONARCH, THEN GAVE THAT MIRACULOUS AND UNASSAILABLE BOW WHICH WAS AS POTENT AS THOUSANDS OF BOWS AND WAS REVERED BY THE CELESTIALS.

HE ALSO GAVE AN INEXHAUSTIBLE QUIVER AND A FULLY EQUIPPED CHARIOT DISTINGUISHED BY ITS BANNER THAT HAD THE EMBLEM OF THE APE. YOKED TO THE CHARIOT WERE STEEDS THAT WERE AS WHITE AS SPOTLESS CLOUDS.

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"AND AGNI GAVE TO KRISHNA THE DISCUS WHICH HAD A CENTRE AS HARD AS AGATE, SAYING:

THIS WEAPON WILL MAKE YOU SUPERIOR TO MEN AND CELESTIALS. HURLED BY YOU, IT WILL DESTROY THE ENEMY AND RETURN TO YOU.

IT WAS A FIERY WEAPON, O MONARCH, THE POSSESSION OF WHICH MADE KRISHNA EQUAL TO THE TASK.

"AND THEN VARUNA GAVE KRISHNA A MACE, KAUMODAKI BY NAME, WHICH WHEN HURLED SPED WITH A THUNDEROUS ROAR.

"THEN, ARJUNA AND KRISHNA, FULL OF EXCITEMENT, SAID TO AGNI:

O LORD, DEVOUR ALL SIDES OF THIS FOREST AS YOU DEEM FIT. WE ARE AT HAND TO ASSIST YOU.

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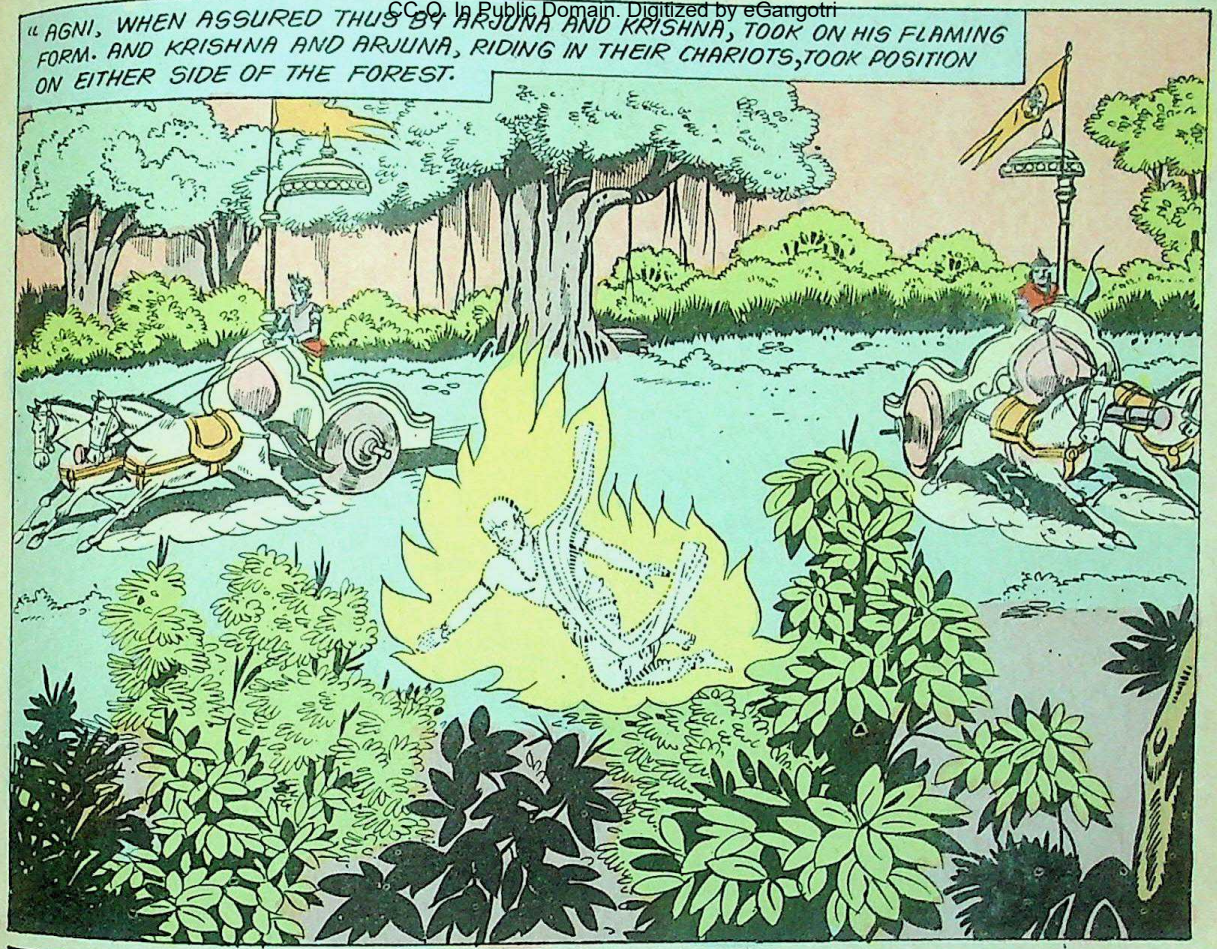

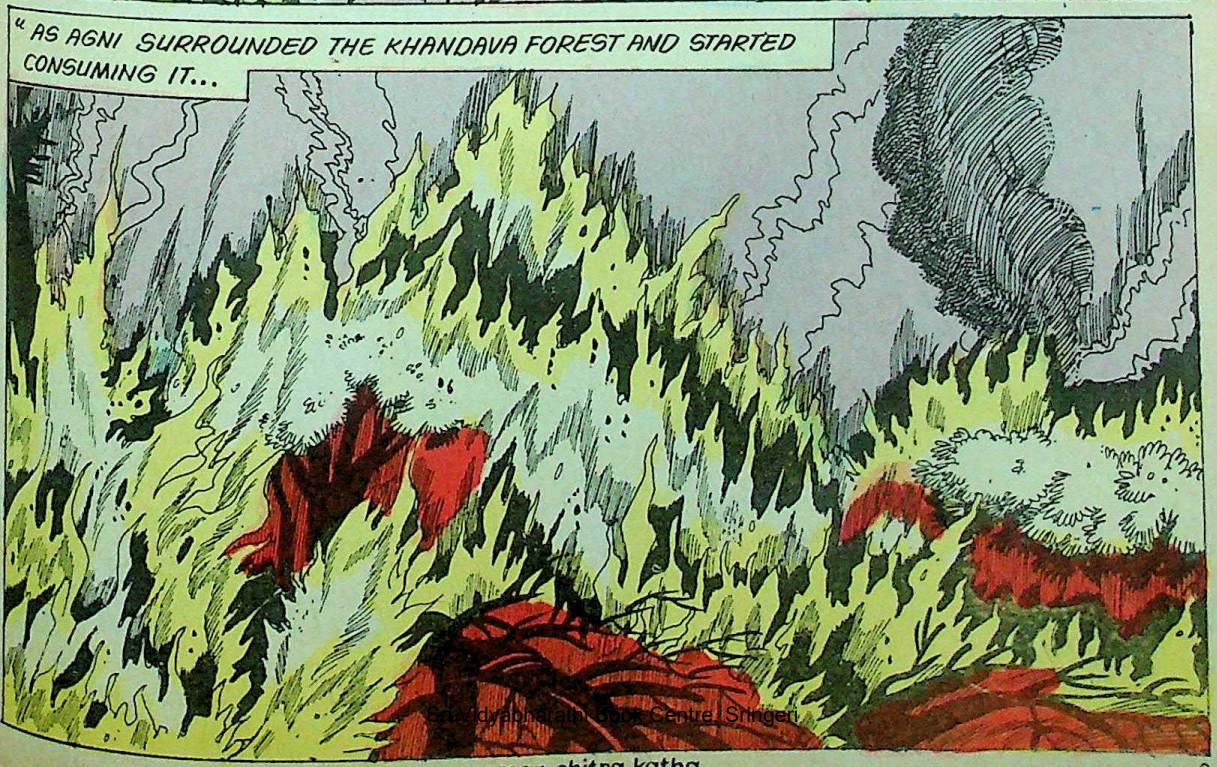

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"... THE WATER-SPOTS BEGAN TO BOIL AND THE LEAPING FLAMES ROSE UP TO THE SKY...

"... STRIKING FEAR INTO THE HEARTS OF THE CELESTIALS.

"THEN THOSE IN THE REALMS ABOVE WENT TO INDRA AND SAID:

O LORD, WHY IS AGNI BURNING UP ALL THOSE CREATURES? IS THE WORLD NEARING ITS DAY OF DOOM?

"WHEN INDRA HEARD THIS AND BEHELD FOR HIMSELF THE EVENT, O MONARCH, HE COVERED THE SKIES WITH MULTITUDINOUS CLOUDS. AND THOSE CLOUDS AMASSED AND COMMANDED BY INDRA...

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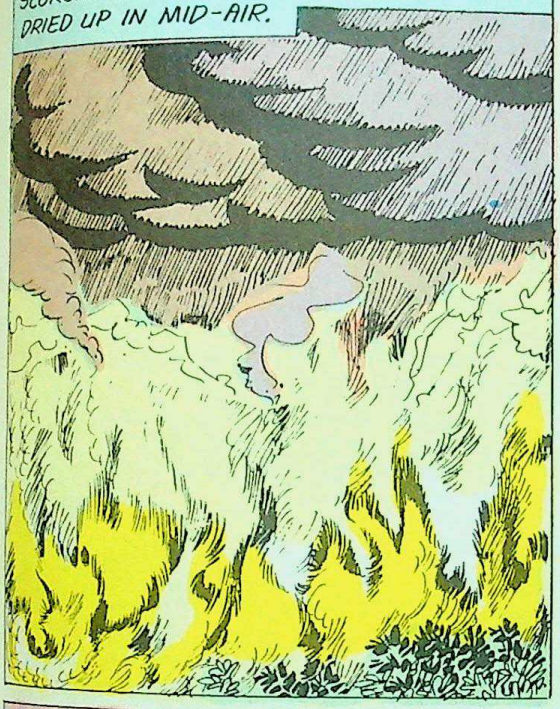
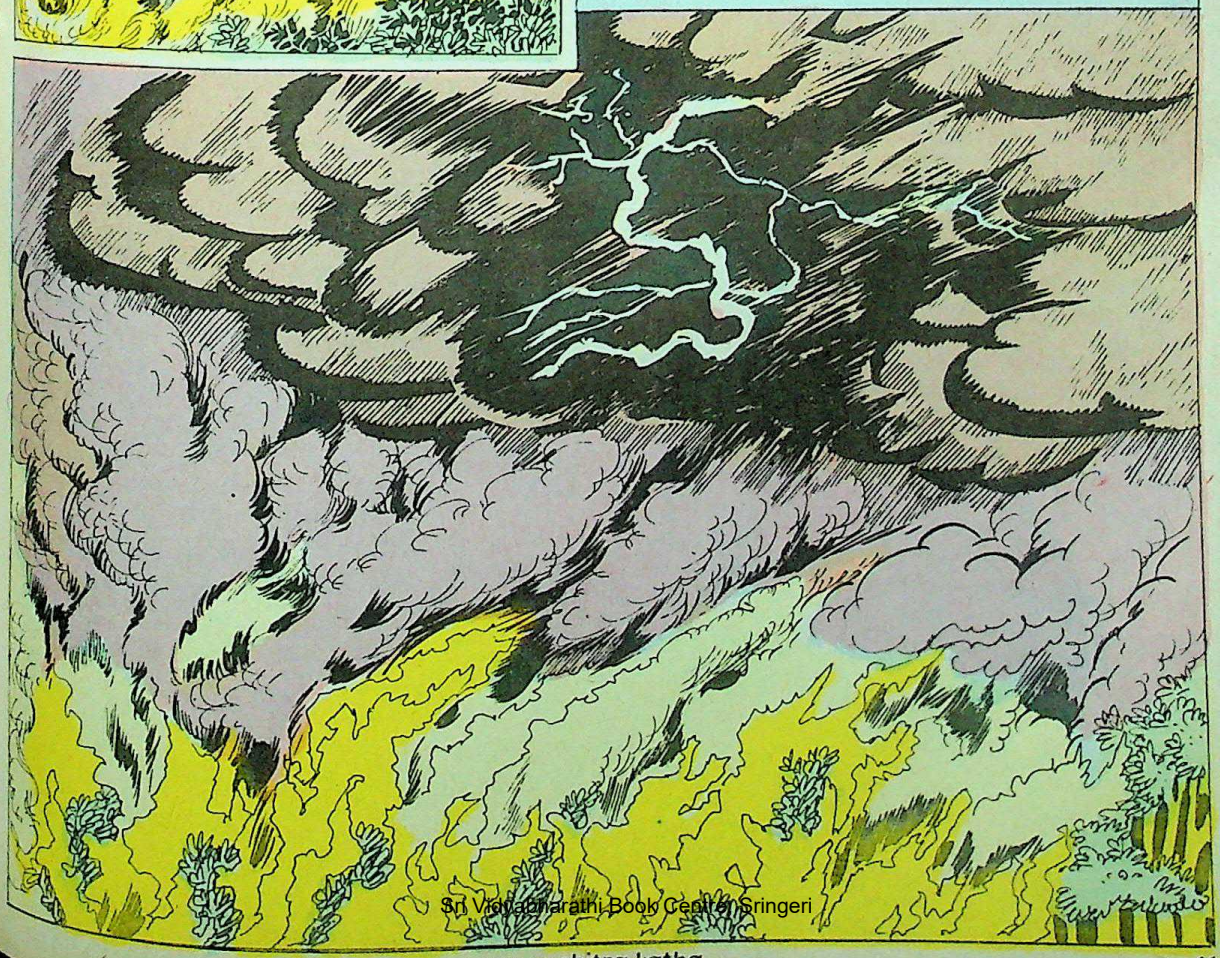
"... BEGAN RAINING DOWN UPON THE KHANDAVA FOREST IN SHOWERS AS THICK AS THE AXLE-RODS OF A CHARIOT. BUT IN THE SCORCHING HEAT OF THE FIRE, THE CASCADES DRIED UP IN MID-AIR.



AN ENRAGED INDRA GATHERED MORE MASSIVE CLOUDS FOR...

"... A HEAVIER DOWNPOUR. THE ENCOUNTER OF THE RUSHING WATER WITH THE BLAZE FILLED THE FOREST WITH SMOKE AND THE FLASHES OF LIGHTNING TURNED IT TERRIBLE.



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"BUT THE COUNTLESS ARROWS RELEASED BY ARJUNA, EVEN AS THEY SET UP A BLOCKADE AGAINST INDRA'S SHOWERS, CLOSED THE PATHS OF ESCAPE FOR THE LIVING CREATURES BELOW.

WHILE THE FOREST WAS BURNING O MONARCH, TAKSHAKA, THE FRIEND OF INDRA WAS NOT IN THERE. BUT ASHWASENA, THE MIGHTY SON OF TAKSHAKA WAS.

" AND INDRA, KEEN ON SAVING HIS FRIEND'S SON, RAISED A TERRIBLE STORM...

"... WHICH LAID ARJUNA UNCONSCIOUS FOR A MOMENT. JUST AT THAT MOMENT ASHWASENA ESCAPED.

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"WHEN ARJUNA REALIZED HOW POTENT THE ILLUSION HAD BEEN, HE CURSED THE SLY SNAKE AS DID KRISHNA AND AGNI, SAYING:

NONE SHALL SPEAK WELL OF YOU.

"AND ARJUNA, PIQUED BY THE THOUGHT THAT HE HAD BEEN TRICKED, COVERED THE SKIES WITH ARROWS AND CARRIED THE FIGHT STRAIGHT TO INDRA."

AND INDRA, O MONARCH, SAW THE DETERMINATION OF ARJUNA AND HURLED HIS FIERCE WEAPONS, COVERING THE VERY FIRMAMENT COMPLETELY.

"THEN THERE AROSE HOWLING GALES THAT STIRRED UP THE OCEANS...

"...AND CREATED BILLOWING CLOUDS RICH WITH MOISTURE.

"AND THOSE CLOUDS EMITTED THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

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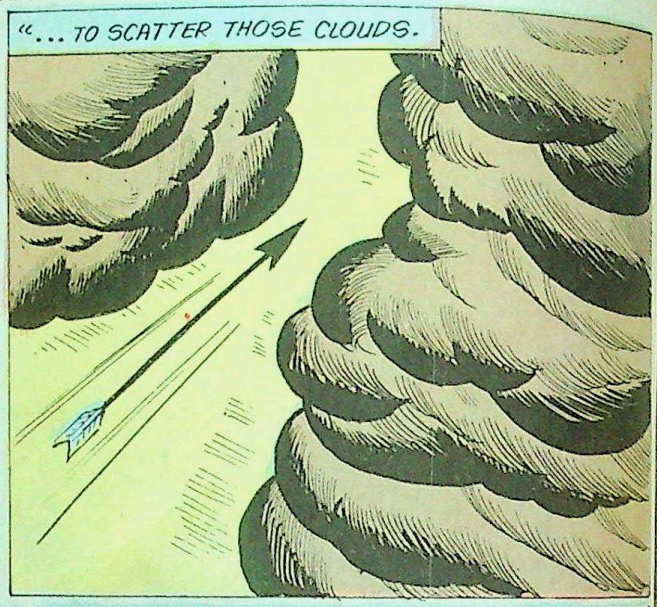

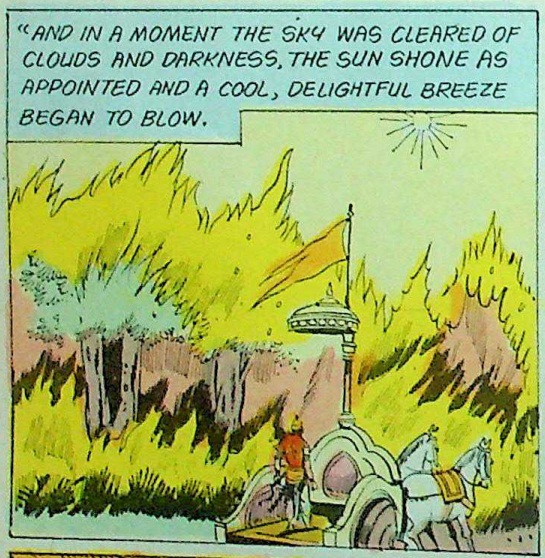

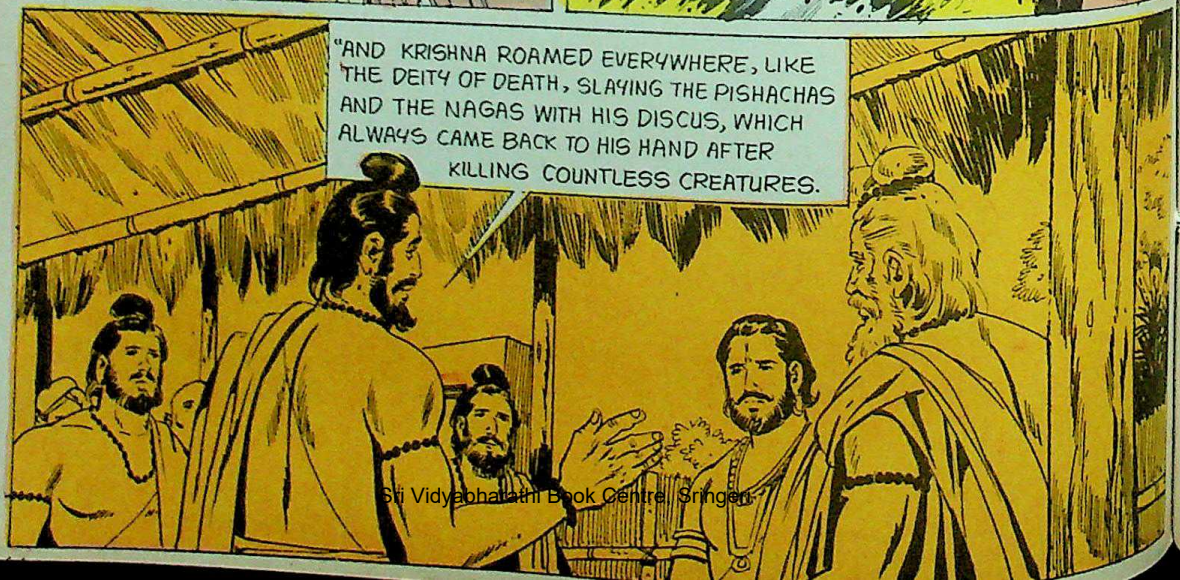

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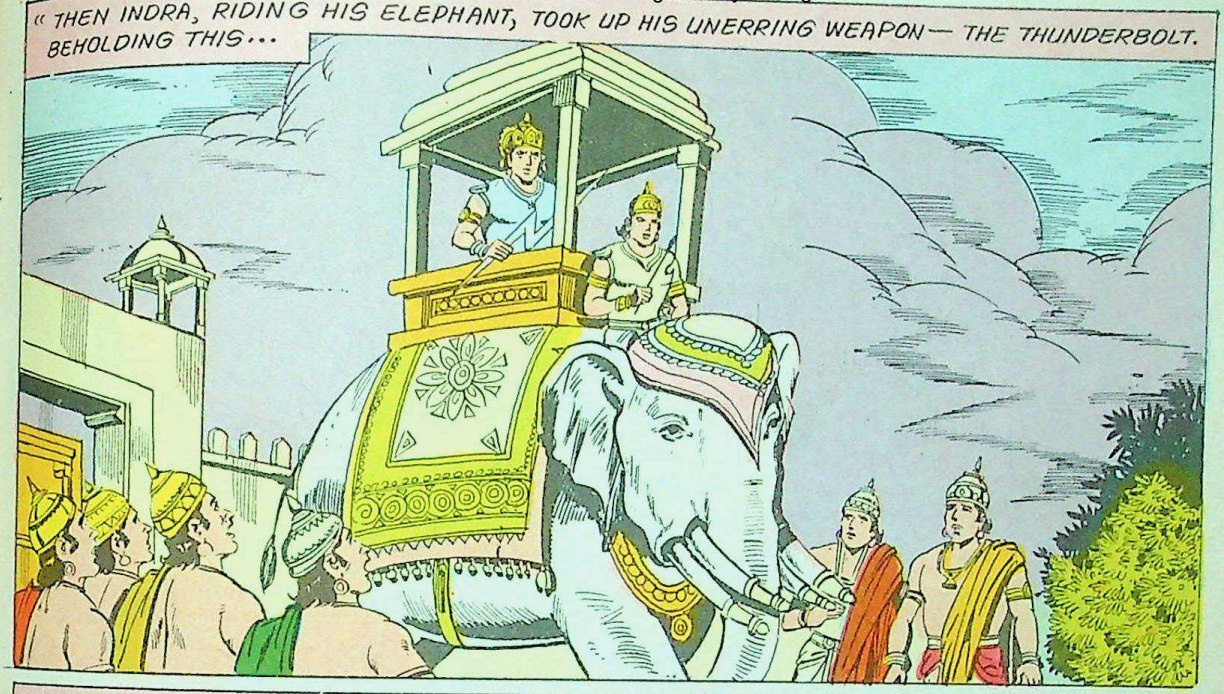

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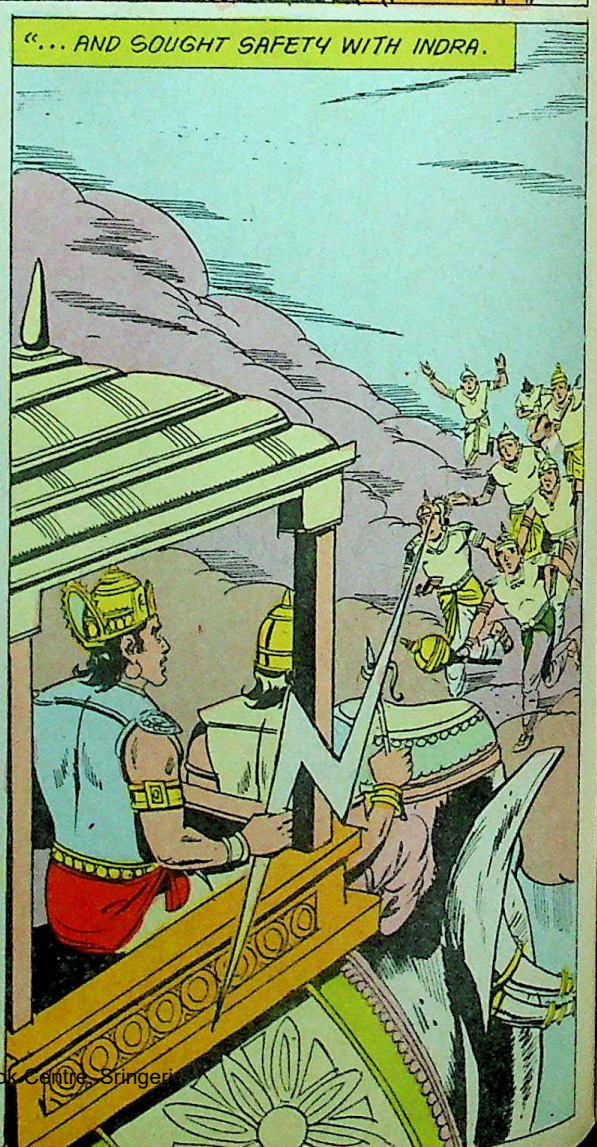

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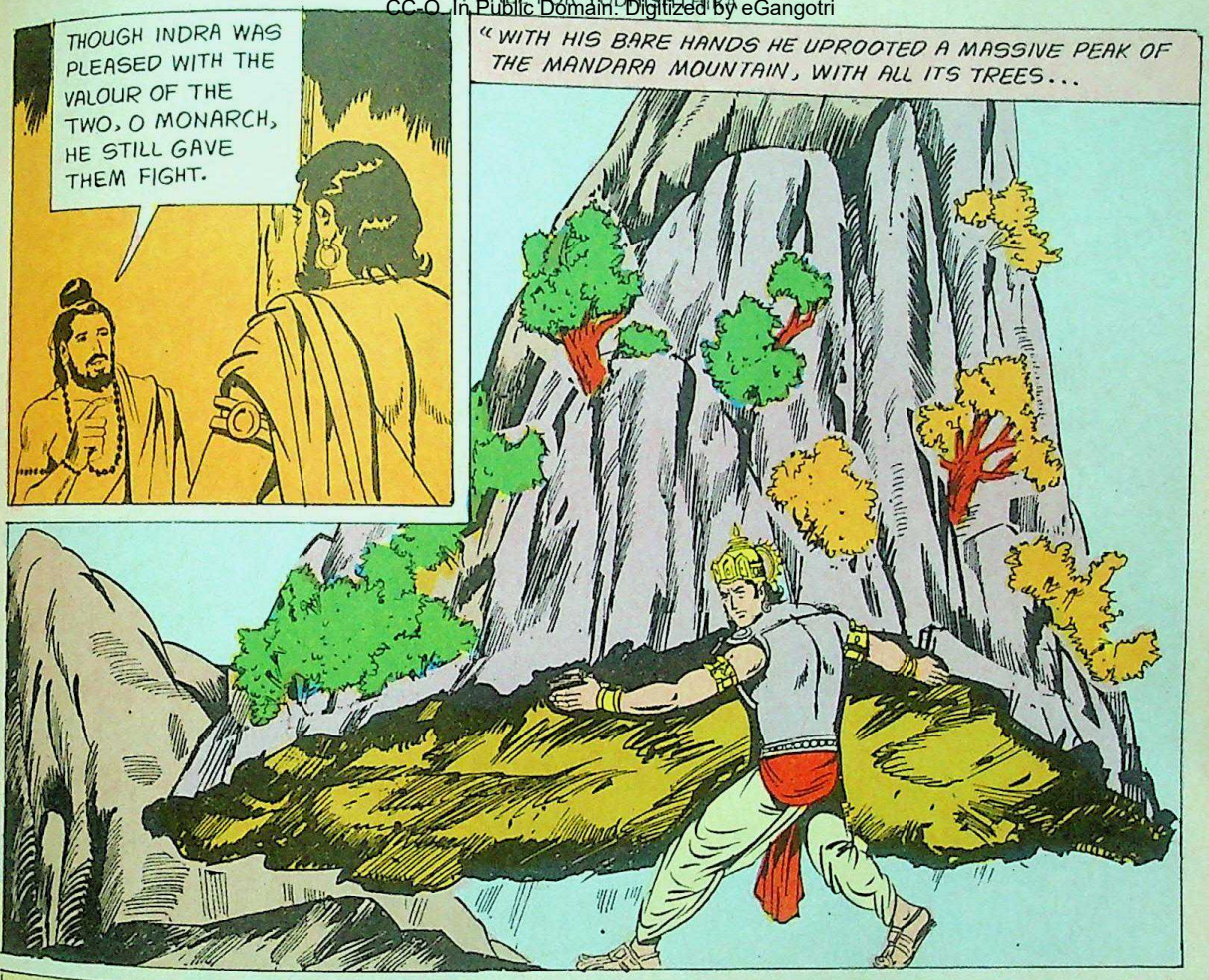

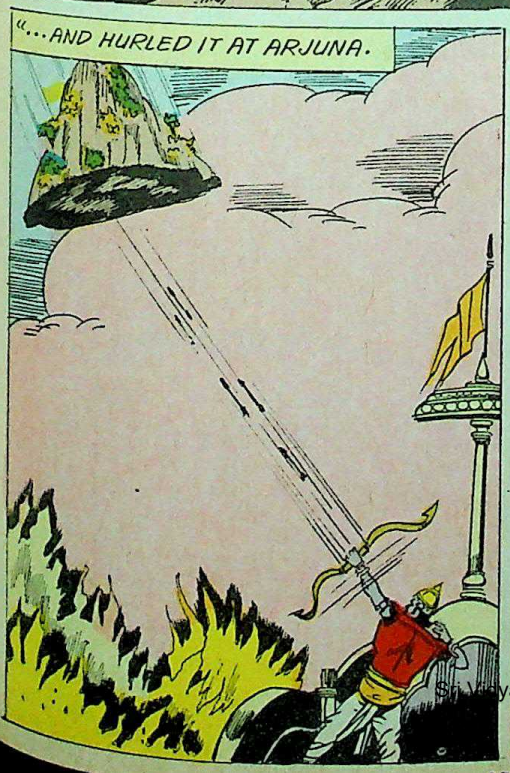

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O MONARCH, THE FRAGMENTS OF THAT MOUNTAIN AS THEY CAME PLUNGING DOWN WERE LIKE THE SUN AND THE MOON AND THE PLANETS FALLING DOWN FROM THEIR ORBITS.

"THEN A VOICE, DEEP AND GRAVE, ADDRESSED ITSELF TO INDRA AND SAID:

YOUR FRIEND TAKSHAKA IS NOT IN THERE. KHANDAVA IS FATED TO BE BURNT. KNOW KRISHNA AND ARJUNA TO BE INVINCIBLE IN BATTLE. THEREFORE IT IS PROPER THAT YOU TURN BACK WITH RETINUE.

"THEN THE CELESTIALS, BEHOLDING INDRA RETRACING HIS STEPS...

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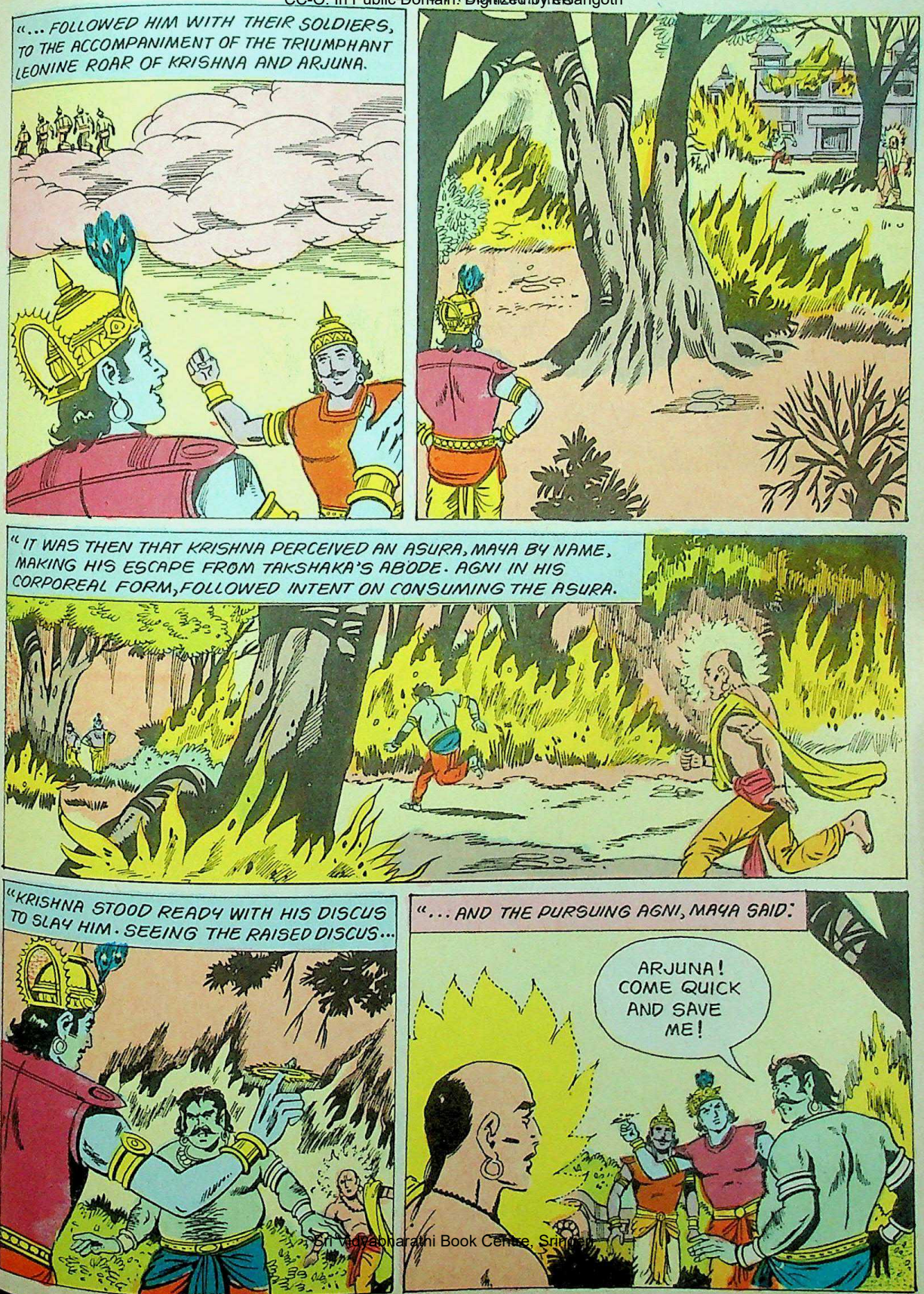

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"ARJUNA HEARD HIS FRIGHTENED VOICE AND SAID:

FEAR NOT!

"AND MAYA WAS NOT HARMED BY KRISHNA OR DEVOURED BY AGNI BECAUSE HE WAS GRANTED ASYLUM BY ARJUNA.

AND, O MONARCH, AGNI CONSUMED THE KHANDAVA FOREST FOR A WHOLE FORTNIGHT FREE FROM THE FEAR OF INDRA AND SECURE UNDER THE MIGHT OF ARJUNA AND KRISHNA.

"THEN INDRA DESCENDED TO EARTH WITH ALL HIS RETINUE...

"... AND SAID TO ARJUNA AND KRISHNA:

I AM PLEASED WITH YOU WHO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED A DEED HARD FOR EVEN THE CELESTIALS. ASK FOR A BOON SELDOM GRANTED TO MEN.

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"ARJUNA ASKED HIM FOR VARIOUS MARVELLOUS WEAPONS AND INDRA APPOINTED THE TIME FOR GIVING THEM SAYING:

IN TIMES TO COME, WHEN MAHADEVA'S GRACE FALLS ON YOU, THEN SHALL I GIVE YOU ALL MY WEAPONS.

"THEN KRISHNA, O MONARCH, ASKED THAT HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH ARJUNA BE ETERNAL. INDRA GRANTED HIM THAT BOON AND THEN, AFTER SPEAKING TO AGNI, RETURNED TO HIS HEAVENLY ABODE WITH HIS COMPANIONS.

"AND AGNI SAID TO ARJUNA AND KRISHNA:

I HAVE BEEN SERVED WELL BY BOTH OF YOU. NOW YOU MAY GO WHEREVER YOU CHOOSE TO.

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"ARJUNA, KRISHNA AND MAYA PROCEEDED TOWARDS THE BANKS OF THE RIVER...

"... AND SAT DOWN. THEN MAYA IN ALL HUMILITY SAID TO ARJUNA:

YOU SAVED ME FROM THE ANGER OF KRISHNA AND THE FLAMES OF AGNI. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?

"ARJUNA REPLIED:

THIS OFFER OF YOURS IS REWARD ENOUGH FOR ME. REMAIN AS CONSIDERATE TO US AS WE ARE TO YOU.

"MAYA SAID:

YOUR WORDS ARE WORTHY OF ONE NOBLE LIKE YOU. YET I WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR YOU.

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"AND THEN HE SAID:

KEEN AS YOU SEEM TO BE, YOU MAY BUILD A HALL FOR YUDHISHTHIRA.

MAKE IT A MANSION MEN WILL MARVEL AT. MAKE IT UNIQUE.

LET THE BEST DESIGNS KNOWN TO THE DEVAS, ASURAS AND MANKIND BE SEEN IN IT.

THEN KRISHNA AND ARJUNA NARRATED EVERYTHING TO YUDHISHTHIRA AND LED MAYA TO HIM. AND MAYA WAS RECEIVED BY HIM WITH ALL THE HONOURS DUE.

KRISHNA STAYED WITH THE PANDAVAS IN KHANDAVAPRASTHA FOR SOME TIME AND THEN TOOK LEAVE OF THEM TO GO AND VISIT HIS FATHER.

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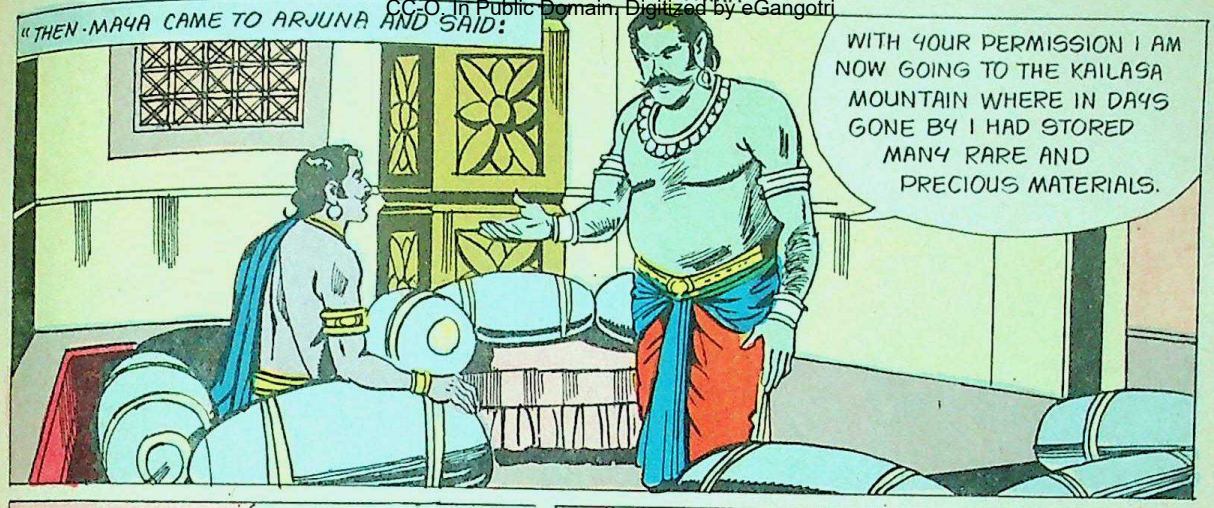

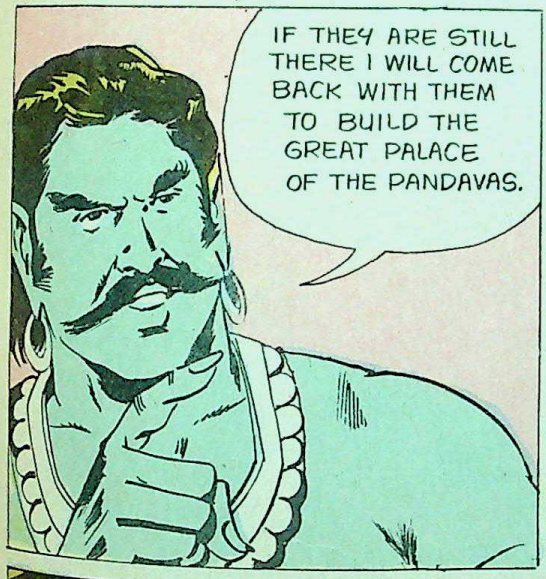

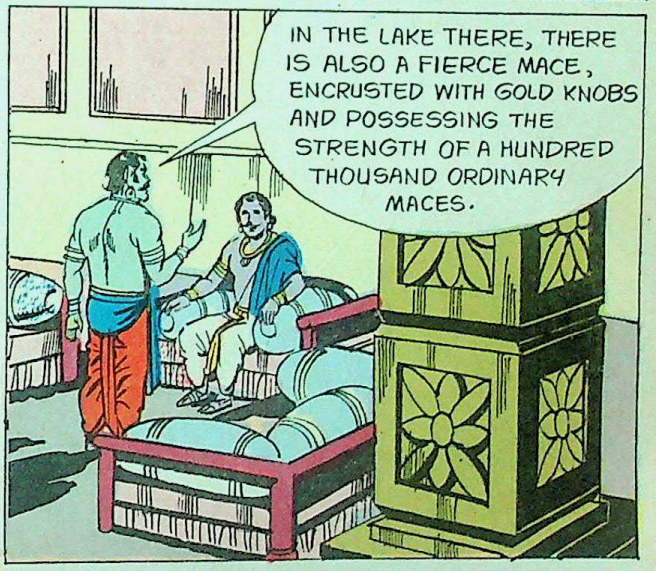

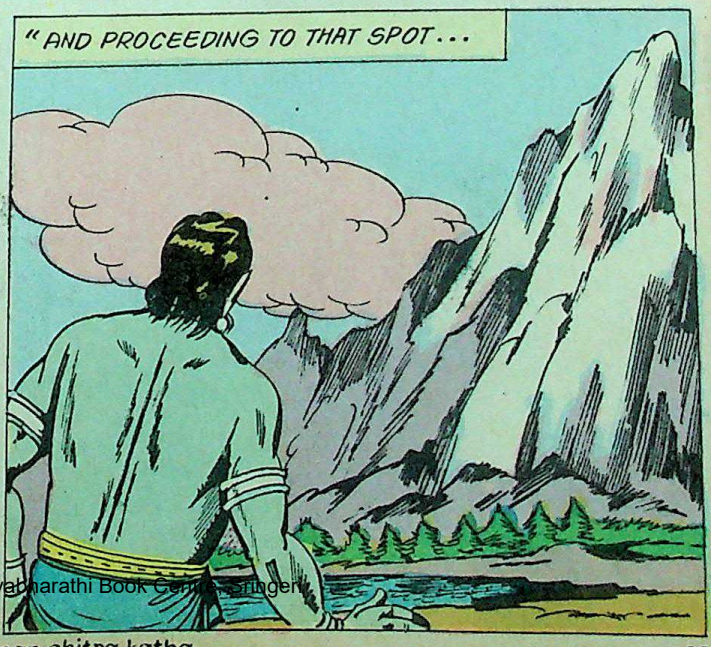

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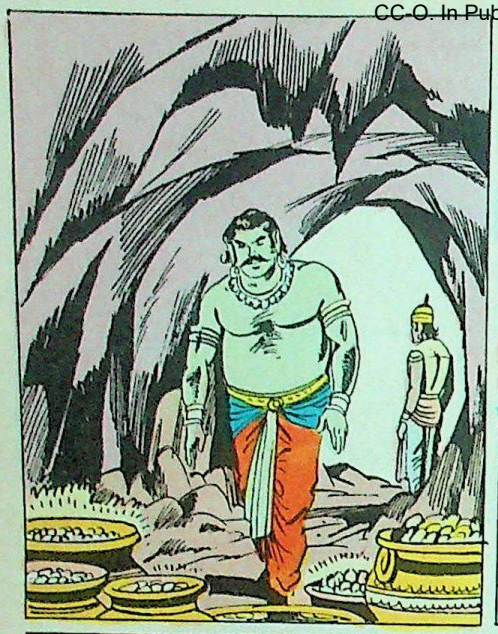
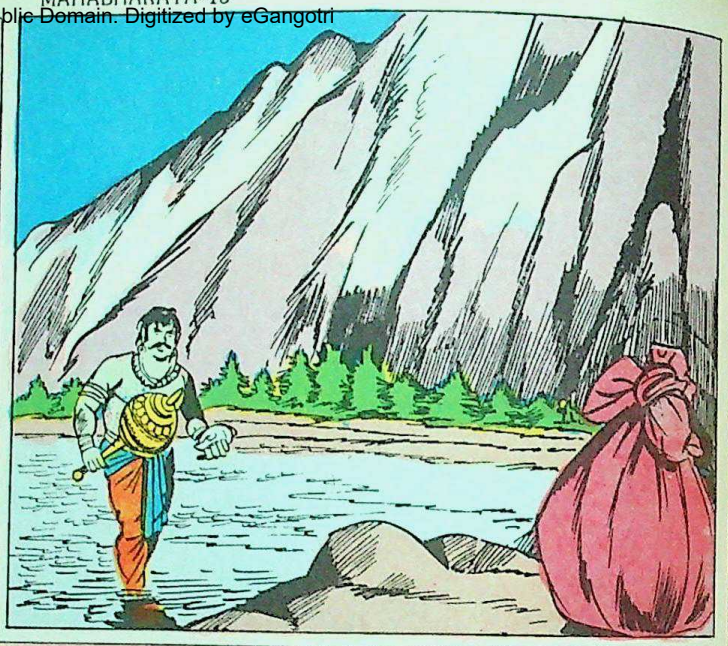
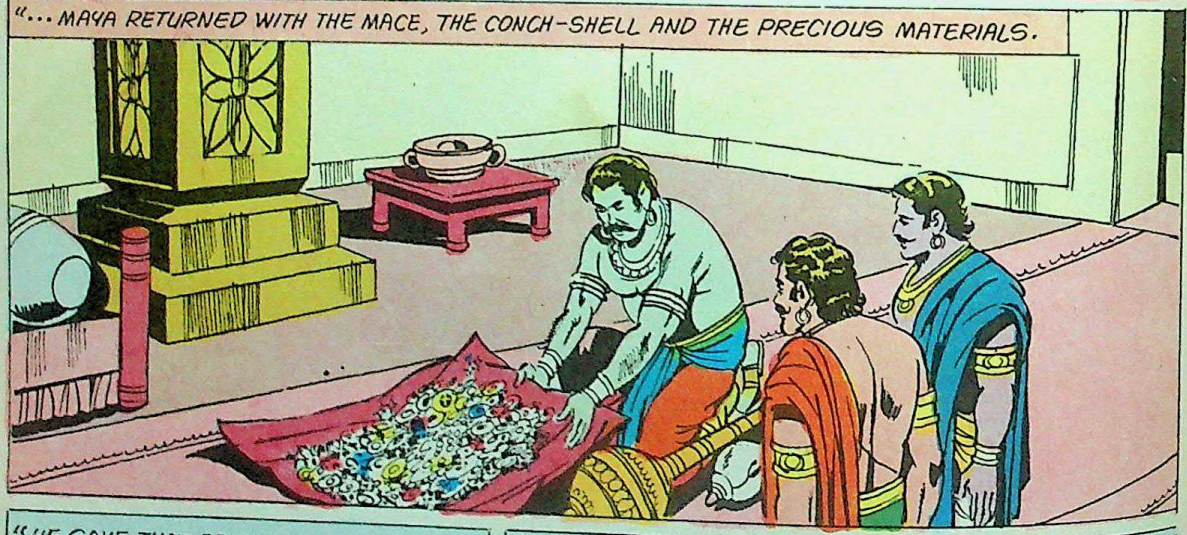


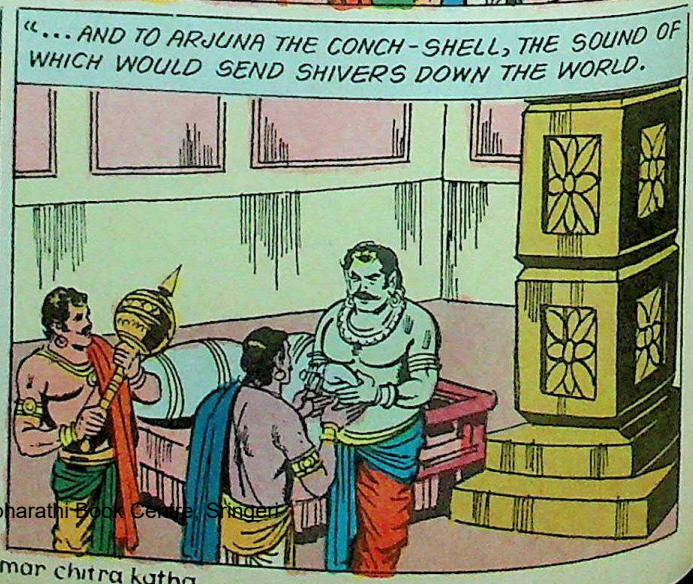


"... MAYA RETURNED WITH THE MACE, THE CONCH-SHELL AND THE PRECIOUS MATERIALS.



"HE GAVE THAT PRICELESS MACE TO BHEEMA...

"... AND TO ARJUNA THE CONCH-SHELL, THE SOUND OF WHICH WOULD SEND SHIVERS DOWN THE WORLD.



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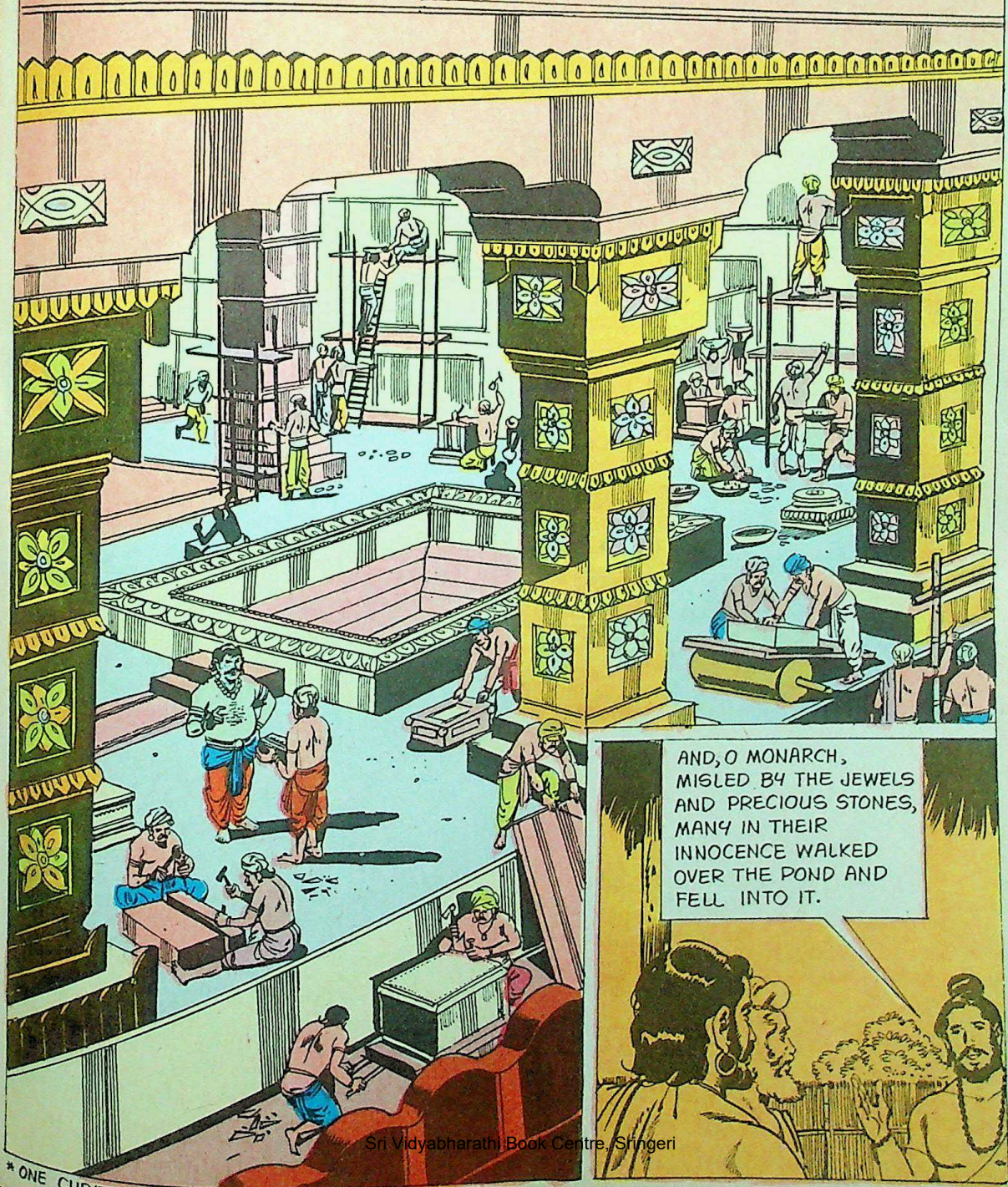
"AND THEN HE STARTED BUILDING THE INIMITABLE PALACE WITH COLUMNS OF GOLD AND WALLS ENCRUSTED WITH PRECIOUS STONES AND WHICH OCCUPIED AN AREA OF FIVE THOUSAND SQUARE CUBITS.* WITHIN THE PALACE GROUNDS MAYA DESIGNED A POND, THE BANKS OF WHICH WERE SET IN MARBLE SLABS DECORATED WITH PEARLS. A FLIGHT OF CRYSTAL STEPS LED ONE FROM THE BANKS TO THE WATER WHICH WAS TRANSPARENTLY CLEAR. HE PLACED IN THE WATER, LOTUSES MADE OF DARK HUGE GEMS WITH STALKS OF BRIGHT JEWELS; AND FISH AND WATER-BIRDS AND TORTOISES.



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* ONE CUBIT IS EQUAL TO 45 TO 56 CENTIMETRES

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IN MAGNIFICENCE, THE HUGE PALACE WITH ITS BEJEWELLED ARCHWAYS AND PROFUSELY DECORATED WALLS, SURPASSED THE MANSION OF BRAHMA HIMSELF. THERE WERE EIGHT THOUSAND RAKSHASAS CALLED "KINKARAS" TO GUARD AND PRESERVE THE PALACE.

MAYA COMPLETED THIS WORK IN FOURTEEN MONTHS AND INFORMED YUDHISHTHIRA OF IT.

THEN DID YUDHISHTHIRA MAKE HIS CEREMONIAL ENTRY AND ALONG WITH HIS BROTHERS LIVE A HAPPY LIFE LIKE INDRA IN HIS HEAVENLY ABODE.

"THEN ONE DAY WHILE THE PANDAVAS WERE IN ASSEMBLY IN THE PALACE...

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"...THERE CAME THE GREAT SAGE NARADA WHOSE WISDOM KNEW NO BOUNDS AND WHOSE KNOWLEDGE SPANNED THE AGES GONE BY.

"AND HE SAID TO YUDHISHTHIRA:

A KING WHO CONSCIENTIOUSLY PRESERVES THE ORDER OF HIERACHY, AND DISCHARGES HIS DUTIES, WILL LEAD A HAPPY LIFE AND WILL ENTER THE DOMAIN OF INDRA THEREAFTER.

"WHEN YOUR FATHER KNEW THAT I WAS VISITING THE EARTH, HE SAID TO ME:

O RISHI, YOU MUST TELL YUDHISHTHIRA THAT HE, WITH THE HELP OF HIS BROTHERS, CAN CONQUER THE WORLD. AND THAN LET HIM EMBARK UPON THE GRAND RAJASOOYA YAJNA.

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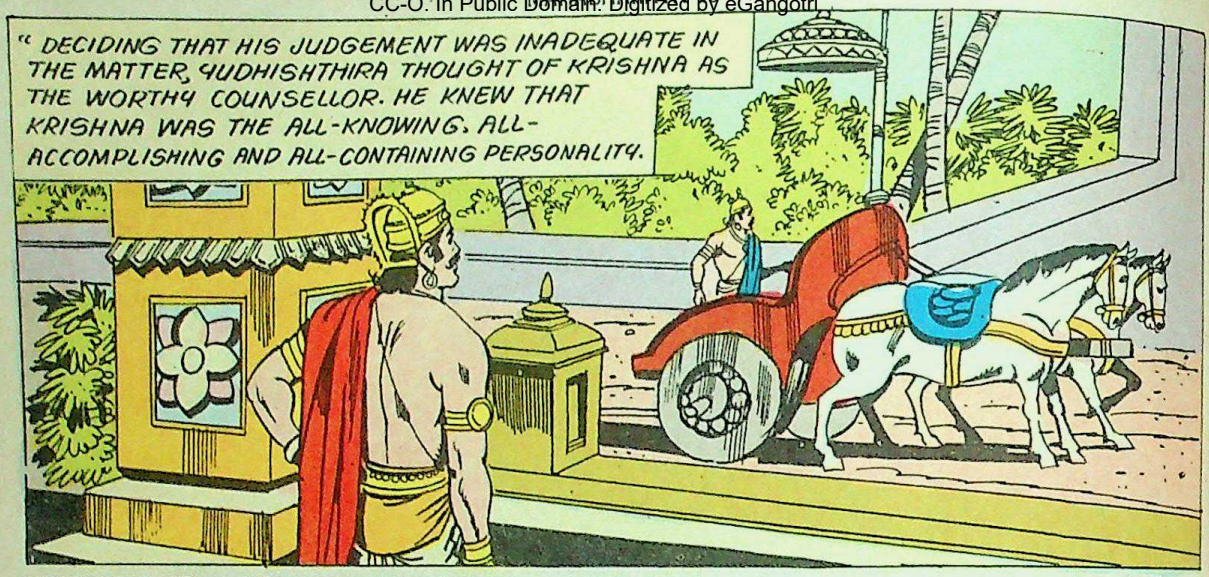

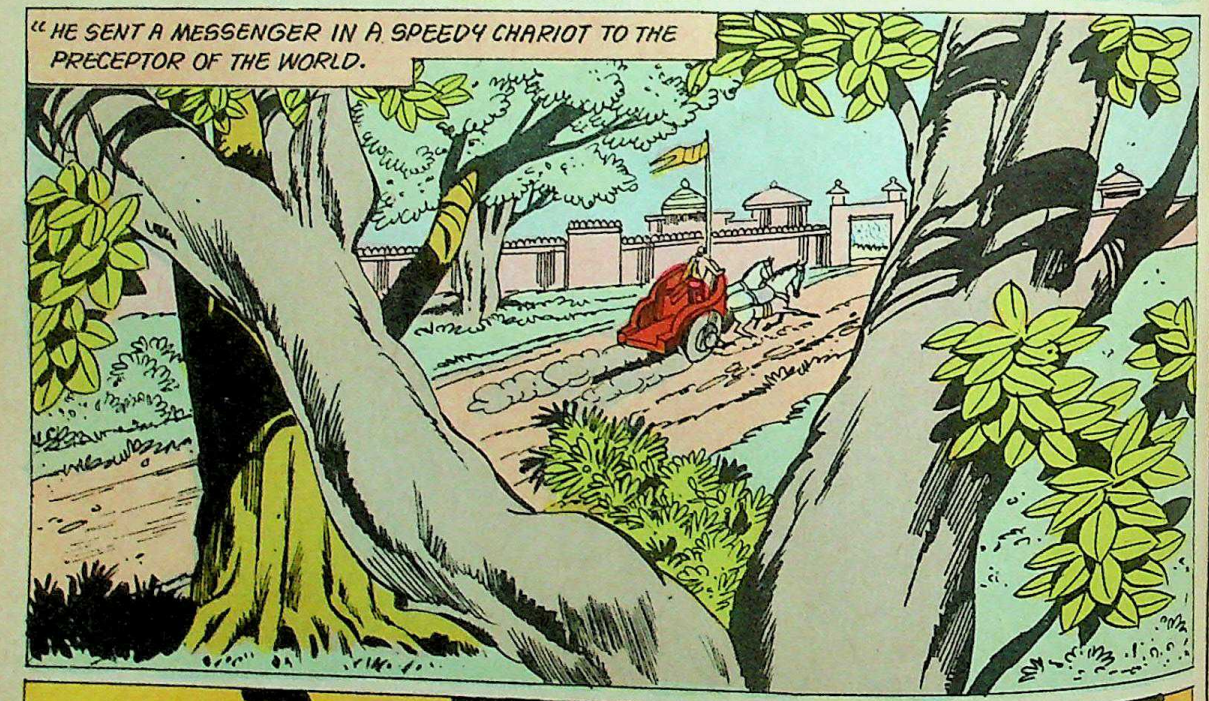

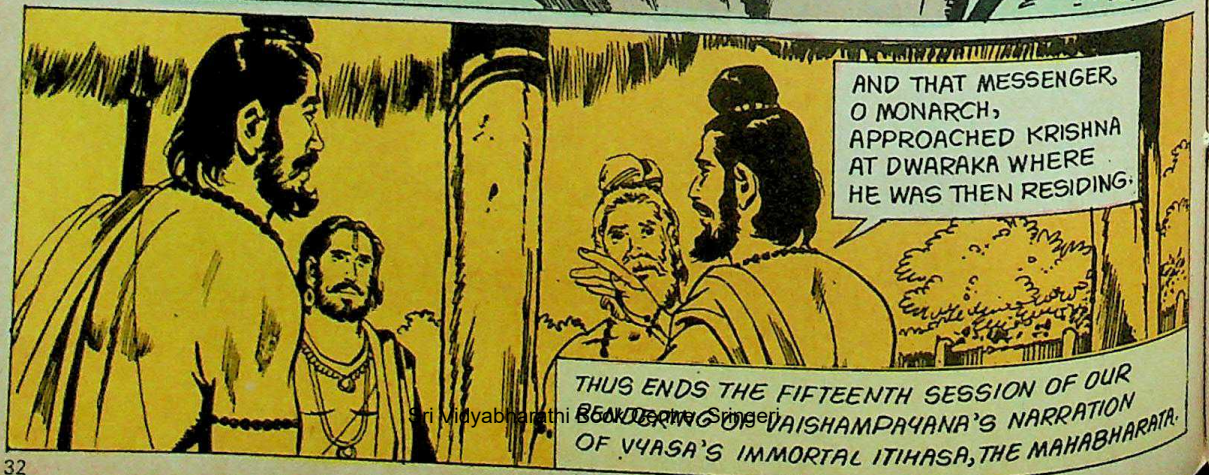

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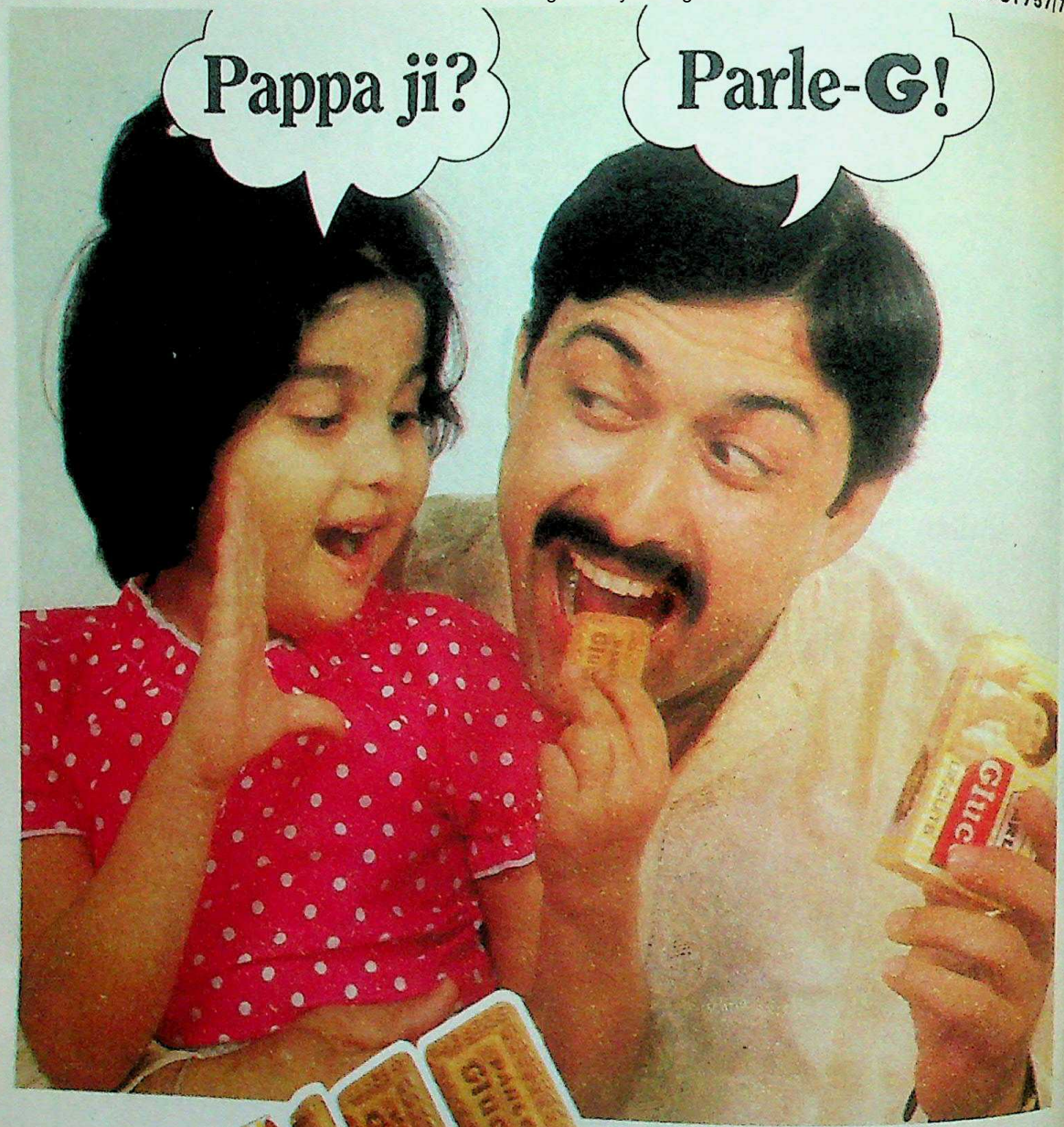
Parle-G!



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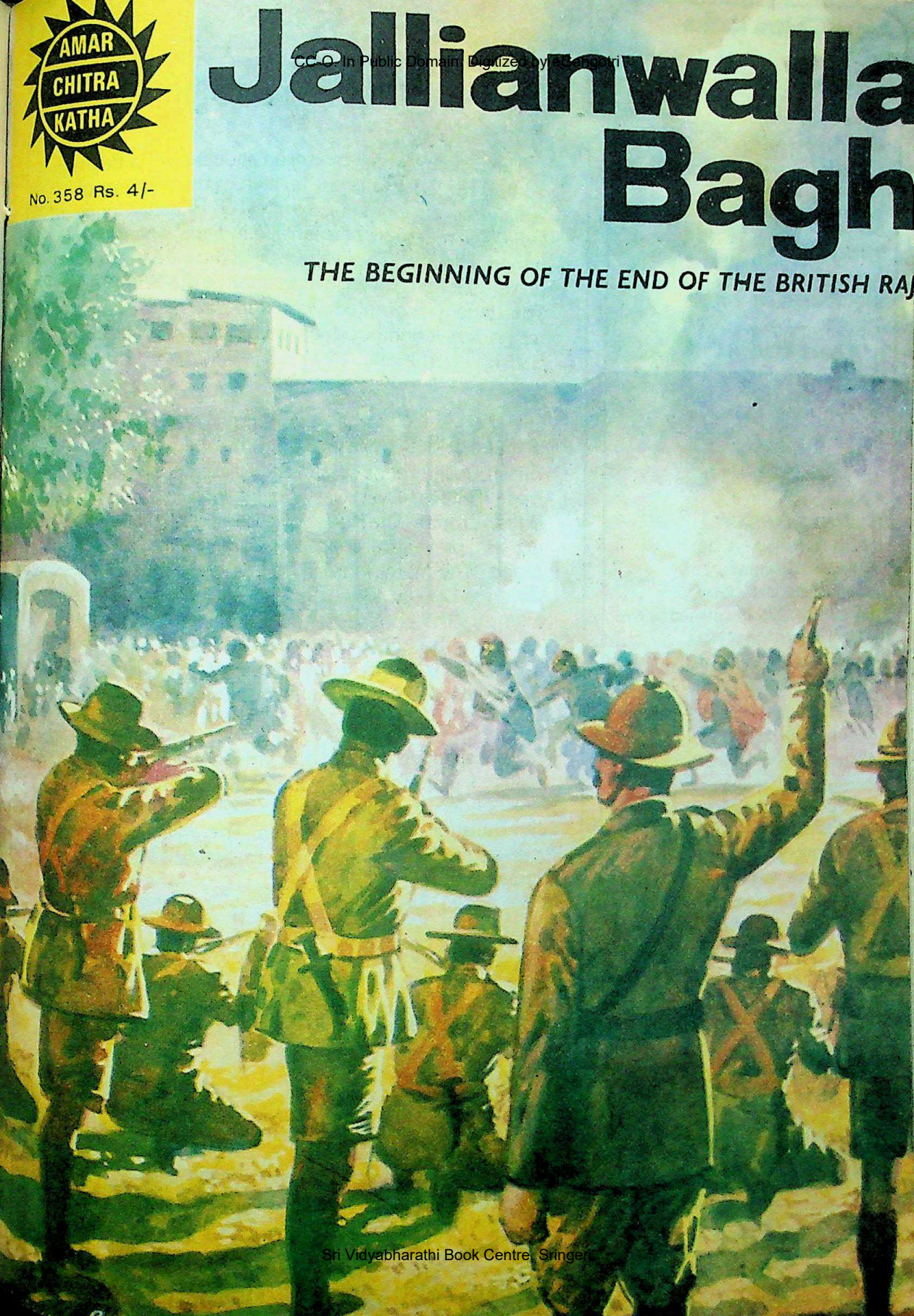
Jallianwalla Bagh

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE BRITISH RA



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Amar Chitra Katha
No. 358 June 1, 1986
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Published by:
H. G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026 and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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Bombay 400 026.
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Admans Enterprises Inc.
1123 Broadway Suite 1010
New York N.Y. 10010
Subscription: (in India only)
Rs. 48/- for 12 issues and Rs. 96/-
for 24 issues. (Add Rs. 8/-
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Jallianwalla Bagh

The incident which occurred at Jallianwalla Bagh on 13th April, 1919 will ever remain in the memory of all Indians as an eloquent symbol of British tyranny in India. The massacre of unarmed Indians, which left four hundred dead and twelve hundred wounded, aroused a universal surge of indignation against the British rulers. The tragedy prompted Poet Rabindranath Tagore to resign the knighthood conferred upon him by the British Government.

Indians hated Major General Dyer, the chief perpetrator of the crime. Under mounting pressure the British Government was forced to censure him. But for many Britons, Dyer was a hero who had saved the British Empire. The House of Lords justified his heinous act as "preventive massacre". Sir Michael O'Dwyer urged "The Morning Post" to launch a fund collection drive for Dyer in which the British ladies took a keen interest. The British-owned "The Times of India" contributed Rs. 20,000 to this fund. The fund totalled £ 26,317. In 1940, Udham Singh shot Sir Michael O'Dwyer to avenge the Jallianwalla Bagh Massacre.

The sacrifice of the martyrs of Jallianwalla Bagh resulted in further intensification of the struggle for independence. It turned millions of loyal supporters of the British Raj into nationalists. The Jallianwalla Bagh massacre thus became an important landmark in India's struggle for freedom.

*

OUR NEXT RELEASE ON:
June 15, 1986
Mahabharata—16
THE PANDAVAS CONQUER THE WORLD

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Jallianwalla Bagh

IN THE YEAR 1919 THERE WAS UNREST IN PUNJAB. IN AMRITSAR, THE BRITISH RULE WAS CONSIDERED BOTH OPPRESSIVE AND INEFFICIENT BY THE PEOPLE.

PRICES ARE SOARING YOU SAY. WHAT CAN I DO? THE GOVERNMENT EXTORTS HIGH TAXES!

THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING NOTHING TO HELP US!

BHAI, HOW CAN IT? THE GOVERNMENT IS BUSY PASSING THIS BILL AND THAT BILL.

THAT'S RIGHT! NOW IT IS THE ROWLATT BILL!

BUT WHO CARES? IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.

YOU ARE WRONG, BROTHER.

IF THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO, IT COULD HAVE YOU ARRESTED AND SENT TO JAIL, MERELY ON SUSPICION. THE ROWLATT ACT GIVES THE GOVERNMENT THAT POWER.

GANDHIJI SAYS THE ROWLATT ACT IS A SYMBOL OF NATIONAL HUMILIATION!

PEOPLE IN AMRITSAR AS IN OTHER PARTS OF INDIA LOOKED TO GANDHIJI FOR GUIDANCE.

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AS THE INFAMOUS PROVISIONS IN THE ROWLATT ACT BECAME WIDELY KNOWN, THERE WAS INDIGNATION EVERYWHERE. AT A MEETING OF LAWYERS—

WE ARE THREE HUNDRED MILLION INDIANS AND WE ARE RULED BY ONLY TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND ENGLISHMEN!

I SEE WHAT YOU ARE GETTING AT! WE COULD TURN THE BRITISH OUT BY GIVING THEM JUST TWO SLAPS EACH!

NO, NO VIOLENCE, PLEASE. GANDHI'S METHOD CALLS FOR SELF-RESPECT AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS.

THE SPEAKER WAS DR. SAIFUDDIN KITCHLEW, A PROMINENT GANDHIAN.

SEVERAL MEETINGS TOOK PLACE IN THE MONTH OF MARCH 1919. ONE SUCH MEETING WAS HELD AT VANDE MATARAM HALL.

LET FETTERS AND HANDCUFFS BE YOUR ORNAMENTS. LET PRISONS BE YOUR MOSQUES AND TEMPLES. THEN INDEED SHALL FREEDOM KISS YOUR FEET.

AT MANY OF THESE MEETINGS GANDHI'S IDEAS WERE EXPLAINED. DR. SATYAPAL, ANOTHER GANDHIAN, WAS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE SPEAKERS AT SUCH MEETINGS.

SATYAGRAHA IS A PROCESS OF SELF-PURIFICATION. OURS IS A SACRED FIGHT AND IT SHOULD BE COMMENCED WITH AN ACT OF SELF-PURIFICATION. TO THIS END GANDHI WANTS THAT ALL THE PEOPLE OF INDIA SHOULD OBSERVE A DAY OF HARTAL* ON MARCH 30.

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*CLOSING OF SHOPS AS A MARK OF SORROW OR PROTEST

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MARCH 30, 1919, WAS OBSERVED AS A DAY OF PRAYER AND OF TOTAL ABSTENTION FROM WORK. NO SHOPS WERE OPENED. THE STREETS WERE DESERTED.

IN THE EVENING, AT A MEETING HELD AT JALLIANWALLA BAGH, OVER 30,000 PERSONS WERE PRESENT.

THE BRITISH WERE NOT INVITED TO THIS COUNTRY, NOR DO WE WANT THEM HERE.

WHEN SUCH A GOVERNMENT ENACTS OPPRESSIVE LAWS LIKE THE ROWLATT ACT, WE MUST FOLLOW THE DICTATES OF OUR CONSCIENCE AND THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD — AND DISOBEY THEM.

BUT WE WILL NOT USE FORCE, TRUTH IS ON OUR SIDE AND IT WILL PREVAIL.

WELL SAID, DR. SAHEB!

THE MEETING OF MARCH 30 WAS A TOTAL SUCCESS. THERE WAS NO VIOLENCE.

WE ARE SIMPLE PEOPLE... BUT DRUNK WITH THE LOVE OF FREEDOM...

WE WILL OBTAIN IT EVEN AT THE COST OF OUR LIVES. WE WILL NOT BE DAUNTED BY GUNS OR SPEARS.

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SOON AFTER, THERE WAS NEWS THAT THE DATE OF THE HARTAL HAD ACTUALLY BEEN POSTPONED BY GANDHIJI TO APRIL 6, TO GIVE THE WHOLE COUNTRY TIME TO PREPARE.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?

NEVER MIND, WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER HARTAL ON APRIL 6. WE'LL TREAT THE EARLIER ONE AS A REHEARSAL.

ON APRIL 6, THE HARTAL WAS AS SUCCESSFUL AS THE PREVIOUS ONE.

LATER THAT DAY, NEARLY 50,000 PERSONS ATTENDED THE MEETING WHICH WAS PRESIDED OVER BY DR BADRUL ISLAM KHAN.

WE HAVE MET HERE TO DEMAND THE REPEAL OF THE ROWLATT ACT.

YES REPEAL THE ROWLATT ACT!

REPEAL THE BLACK ACT!

DR. SATYAPAL AND DR. KITCHLEW DID NOT SPEAK. THE GOVERNMENT HAD ISSUED ORDERS PROHIBITING THEM FROM ADDRESSING MEETINGS.

WE DEMAND THAT THE ORDERS PROHIBITING DR. SATYAPAL AND DR. KITCHLEW FROM ADDRESSING MEETINGS BE WITHDRAWN!

SATYAPAL ZINDABAD!

KITCHLEW ZINDABAD!

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MR. IRVING, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF AMRITSAR, WAS A WORRIED MAN.

HMM — THESE MEN, KITCHLEW AND SATYAPAL, SEEM TO HAVE A TREMENDOUS INFLUENCE OVER THE PEOPLE. THEY JUST CALL FOR A HARTAL AND THE PEOPLE OBEY...

THE DAY PASSED OFF QUIETLY WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE; BUT THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BELIEVED THAT THE HARTAL WAS THE FIRST STEP, A TEST OF STRENGTH — AND WORSE WAS TO FOLLOW.

IF A RIOT WERE TO BREAK OUT, OUR GARRISON WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT EVEN TO DEFEND THE CIVIL LINES. WE MIGHT THEN HAVE TO ABANDON NINE-TENTHS OF THE CITY!

ACCORDINGLY HE WROTE TO HIS SUPERIOR TO SEND REINFORCEMENTS.

APRIL 9 WAS RAM NAVAMI DAY. ON THIS HINDU FESTIVAL, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, A LARGE ORDERLY PROCESSION OF HINDUS, MUSLIMS AND SIKHS WALKED THROUGH CROWDED STREETS.

GANDHI MAHARAJ KI JAI.

KITCHLEWJI KI JAI.

SATYAPALJI KI JAI.

HINDUS PUBLICLY ACCEPTED WATER FROM MUSLIMS.

HINDU — MUSALMAN KI JAI!

HINDU — MUSALMAN KI JAI!

THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WITNESSED THE SCENE FROM THE VERANDAH OF A BUILDING.

THESE TWO COMMUNITIES FRATERNIZING — THAT'S A BAD SIGN...

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WHEN THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER WAS SEEN IN THE VERANDAH ABOVE, THE BRASS BAND STARTED PLAYING "GOD SAVE THE KING."

SOMETHING IS WRONG HERE. I HAVE A SUSPICION THEY ARE JEERING AT US!

BUT BY AND LARGE, THE CROWDS BEHAVED IN A DISCIPLINED FASHION.

THAT SAME EVENING WHEN MR IRVING, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, RETURNED TO HIS BUNGALOW—

AN ORDER FROM GENERAL O'DWYER TO DEPORT DR. SATYAPAL AND KITCHLEW TO DHARAMSALA*!

IRVING CALLED A CONFERENCE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS AT HIS BUNGALOW.

IF WE DEPORT KITCHLEW AND SATYAPAL I EXPECT TROUBLE WHEN PEOPLE GET WIND OF IT. WHAT SHOULD WE DO? ANY IDEAS?

AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION, THEY ARRIVED AT A STRATEGY.

RIGHT! SO WE WILL HAVE MOUNTED PICKETS TO PROTECT THE RAILWAY STATION, THE CIVIL LINES AND THE CANTONMENT...

... AND AN INFANTRY DETACHMENT IN RESERVE AND 75 ARMED POLICE AT THE KOTWALI.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book

*NOW IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

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ON APRIL 10, KITCHLEW AND SATYAPAL WERE CALLED TO THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S BUNGALOW ON THE PRETEXT THAT IT WAS FOR A DISCUSSION.

SOON AFTER, THEY WERE PLACED IN TWO SEPARATE MOTOR CARS AND DRIVEN AWAY UNDER A BRITISH ESCORT DISGUISED AS A SHOOTING PARTY.

IN SPITE OF ALL THESE PRECAUTIONS, THE NEWS SPREAD WITHIN AN HOUR.

DR. SATYAPAL AND KITCHLEW HAVE BEEN DEPORTED!

EXCITED GROUPS OF PEOPLE BEGAN TO GATHER IN THE STREETS TO PROTEST.

OUR LEADERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED! CLOSE YOUR SHOP!

STOP ALL BUSINESS!

SOON THE CROWDS SNOWBALLED FROM SMALL STRAGGLING NUMBERS TO 50,000. THEY WERE ORDINARY UNARMED CITIZENS.

WE WILL APPEAL TO THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER HIMSELF!

HE MUST CANCEL THE DEPORTATION ORDERS.

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HE MUST RESTORE OUR LEADERS TO US.

WE MUST HAVE OUR LEADERS BACK OR WE MUST BE PREPARED TO DIE!

THEY PASSED A FEW EUROPEANS ON THE WAY, BUT THE CROWD TOOK NO NOTICE OF THEM. THEY WERE INTERESTED ONLY IN AIRING THEIR GRIEVANCES.

WE WILL TALK TO THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER! WHERE ARE OUR LEADERS? WE WANT THEM BACK.

THIS CROWD WALKED THROUGH THE STREETS, TOWARDS THE CIVIL LINES — PAST THE HALL BAZAAR AND THE BANKS TILL THEY REACHED THE CARRIAGE-BRIDGE:

LOOK!

THERE ARE MOUNTED TROOPS ON THE CARRIAGE-BRIDGE!

THEY WON'T LET US ENTER THE CIVIL LINES!

KEEP MOVING! DON'T BE AFRAID.

LIKE A TYPHOON THE EXCITED CROWD SURGED FORWARD...

... AND THE TROOPS RETREATED OVER THE BRIDGE. THE CROWD FOLLOWED THEM.

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WHEN THEY HAD NEARLY REACHED THE OTHER END OF THE BRIDGE, THE MOUNTED SOLDIERS, IN DESPERATION, TURNED ROUND AND FIRED AT THE CROWD.

BANG

THREE OR FOUR DIED AND MANY WERE WOUNDED...

HELP!

HE'S BEEN HIT!

THE PEOPLE WERE PROVOKED. THEY PICKED UP STONES, STACKED ON THE ROADSIDE FOR METALLING WORK AND THREW THEM AT THE PICKET.

WE MUST HAVE OUR TWO LEADERS BACK...

...OR WE ARE READY TO DIE!

THEN TWO OF THE POLICE-MEN DISMOUNTED, TOOK COVER BEHIND SOME CULVERTS AND FIRED.

SIX OR SEVEN SHOTS BROUGHT THE CROWD TO A STANDSTILL, FOR SEVERAL HAD FALLEN.

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ONE OF THEM, A BOY OF SIXTEEN, LAY BADLY WOUNDED. DR. DHANPAT RAI WHO WAS PRESENT WENT TO HELP HIM, BUT HE ONLY WAVED HIM ASIDE.

I AM DYING. PLEASE ATTEND TO MY BRETHREN INSTEAD.

HINDU-MUSALMAN KI JAI!

A MOMENT LATER HE DIED.

MEANWHILE PEOPLE HAD GATHERED AT OTHER PLACES TOO. AT AITCHISON PARK, PROMINENT CITIZENS SUCCEEDED IN KEEPING THE CROWDS PEACEFUL THOUGH MORE THAN 30,000 PERSONS HAD GATHERED THERE.

NO VIOLENCE PLEASE. GIVE THEM NO EXCUSE TO SHOOT AT US.

BUT PART OF THIS CROWD EXTENDED UPTO THE THE FOOT-BRIDGE.

SUDDENLY IT CONFRONTED A SMALL MILITARY GUARD POSTED THERE. FOR A MOMENT IT HESITATED...

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...BUT THEN BEGAN TO MOVE FORWARD. SOME PEOPLE BEGAN TO THROW STONES AT THE MILITARY GUARD.

LET US PASS.

WE WANT TO MEET THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER!

THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, MR. PLOMER, WAS IN CHARGE OF THIS PICKET.

STAND BACK! WE WILL FIRE ONLY IF YOU DISOBEY MY ORDER!

SOME LAWYERS IMMEDIATELY CALLED OUT—

PLEASE DO NOT FIRE, SIR!

WE WILL LEAD THE PEOPLE BACK TO THE TOWN.

BY 12-30 P.M. ON APRIL 10, CROWDS WERE TO BE SEEN EVERYWHERE. ON THE CARRIAGE-BRIDGE...

...ON THE FOOT-BRIDGE...

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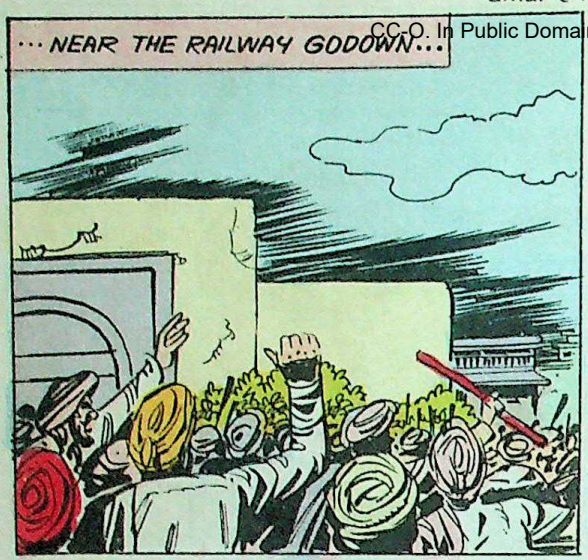

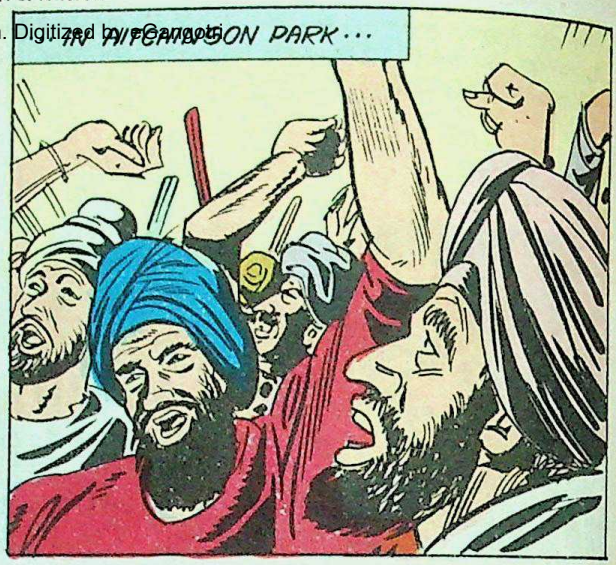

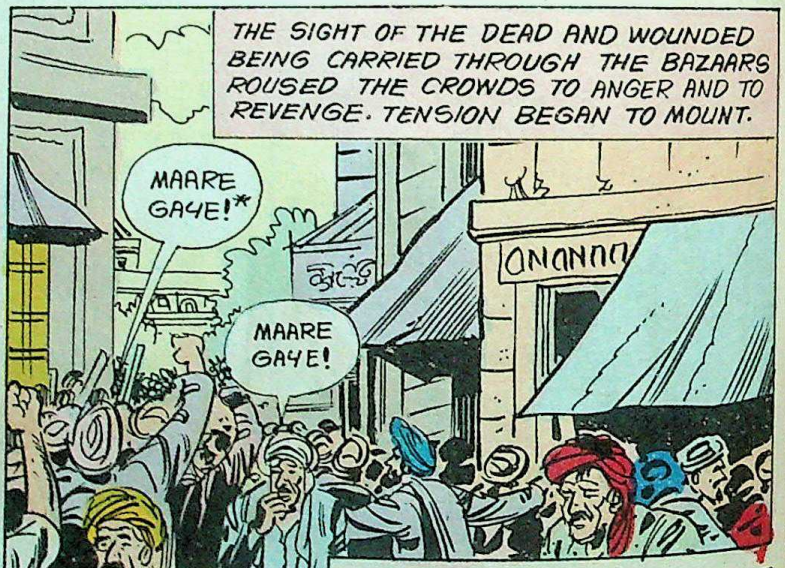

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DISORGANISED, LEADERLESS, THE CROWD HAD NOW BECOME A MOB. GROUPS OF TEN TO THIRTY MEN ARMED WITH LATHIS AND SPIKES ATTACKED THE RAILWAY GOODS YARD...

...AND THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

AS THE CROWDS IN HALL BAZAAR PASSED THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, SOMEONE THREW A STONE AT ONE OF ITS WINDOWS.

THAT SEEMED TO ACT LIKE A SIGNAL. THE MOOD OF THE CROWD CHANGED. SUDDENLY IT TURNED VIOLENT.

THE MANAGER AND HIS ASSISTANT, TWO ENGLISHMEN, WERE BEATEN TO DEATH AND THE BANK WAS SET ON FIRE.

TWO OTHER BANKS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WERE ALSO ATTACKED AND LOOTED. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, THESE BANKS WERE VERY CLOSE TO THE KOTWALI WHICH WAS IN THE CHARGE OF TWO INDIAN OFFICERS. THEY DID NOT LIFT A FINGER TO HELP.

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AT ONE PLACE, THE STATUE OF QUEEN VICTORIA WAS ATTACKED. BUT—

DO NOT ATTACK THE POOR LADY, SHE WAS A GOOD QUEEN!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, LET'S MOVE ON!

BUT IN MOST PLACES, THE MOB HAD LOST ALL REASON. AN ENGLISH WOMAN, MISS SHERWOOD, WAS PURSUED BY A GANG OF HOOLIGANS WHILE SHE WAS CYCLING DOWN KUCHA KAURHIAINWALA STREET.

SHE WAS KNOCKED DOWN FROM HER CYCLE AND WAS BEATEN UP MERCILESSLY.

HE IS DEAD!

CHALO! CHALO! LET'S GO!

SHE WAS ABANDONED ON THE SPOT. LATER SOME SHOPKEEPERS SAW HER AND GAVE HER FIRST AID.

BUT HER CONDITION WAS SO BAD THAT SHE WAS SERIOUSLY ILL FOR A LONG TIME AFTER.

THE TOWN HAD BECOME UNSAFE FOR EUROPEANS. LIEUTENANT COLONEL HENRY SMITH, THE CIVIL SURGEON, ARRANGED FOR EUROPEAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO BE TAKEN TO GOVINDGARH FORT UNDER ARMED ESCORT.

THEY WERE SAFELY INSTALLED AT THE FORT BY EVENING THAT DAY.

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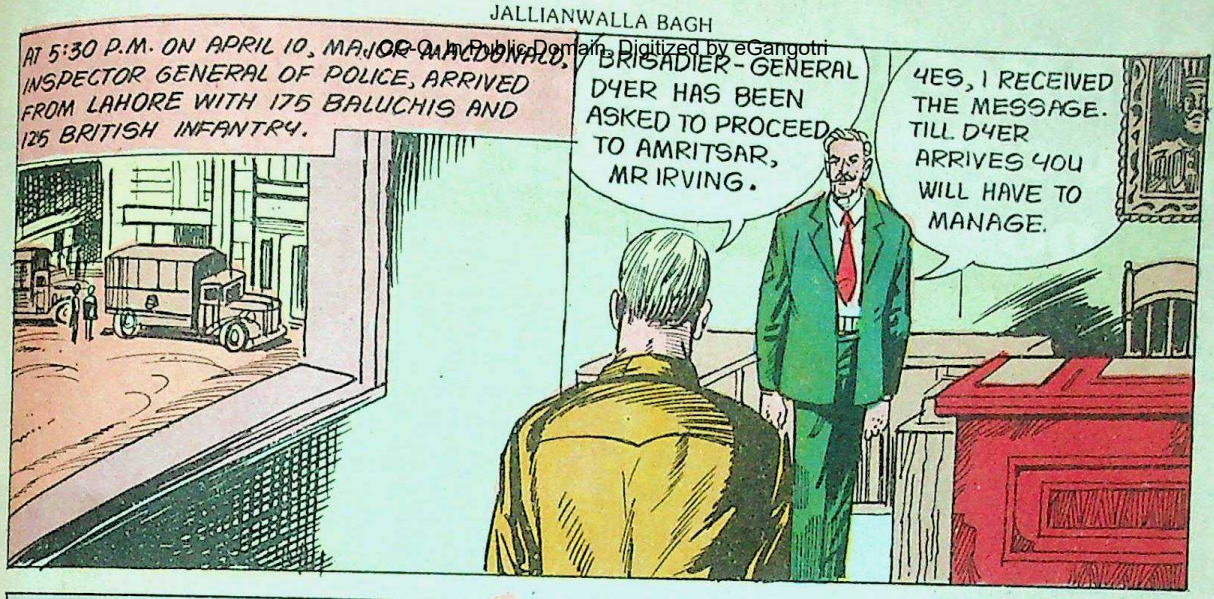

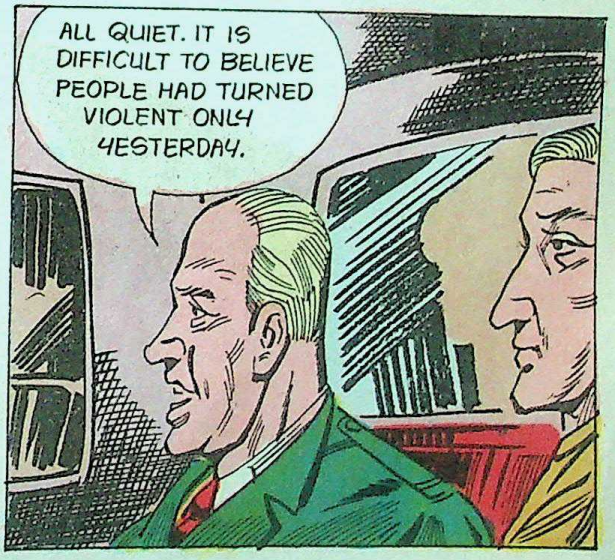

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CONTD. ON PAGE NO. 19

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"After over a 100 tests, how could a white shoe cleaner possibly matter to me?

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You'd be surprised!"

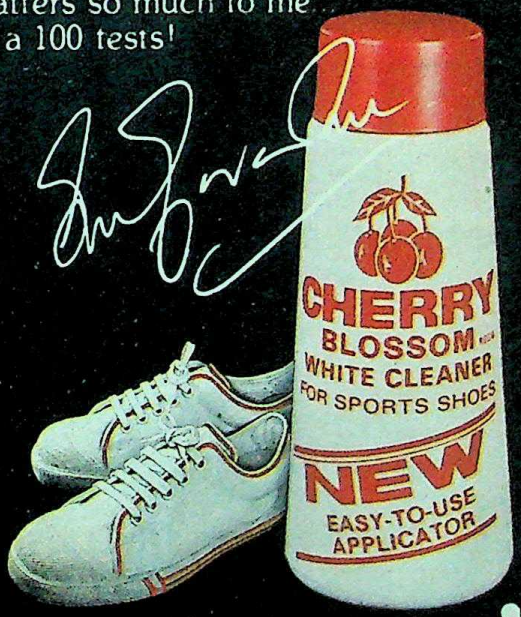
"When I was getting ready to play my first test, someone I admired said to me, 'Get careless about your kit and turnout and you'll soon get careless about the game as well!'

It made a lot of sense to me then. And it still does today.

Sure, you want to put all your time and energy into getting better and better at the game. But don't forget, you're a sportsman first. And what kind of sportsman would you be if you couldn't spare a bit of time to look like one?

Take it from me, when you come perfectly dressed, you feel good, you feel like a sportsman—you feel like a winner!

Is it a wonder then, that a white shoe cleaner matters so much to me even after a 100 tests!



Be a sportsman... down to your feet!"

CHERRY WHITE CLEANER

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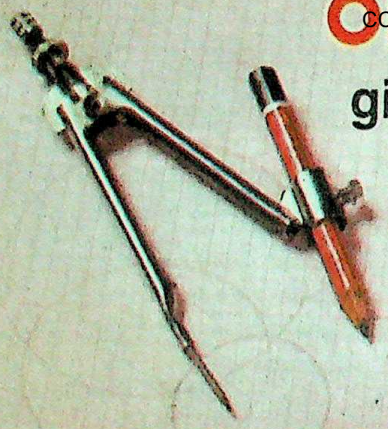
OMEGA Sony

gives you perfection!



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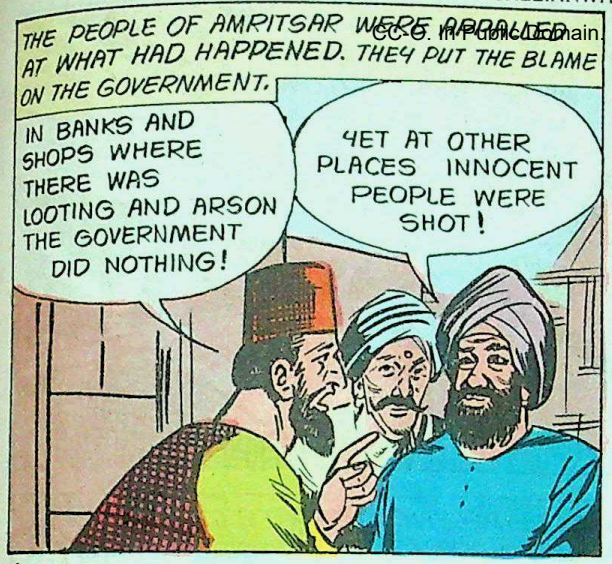

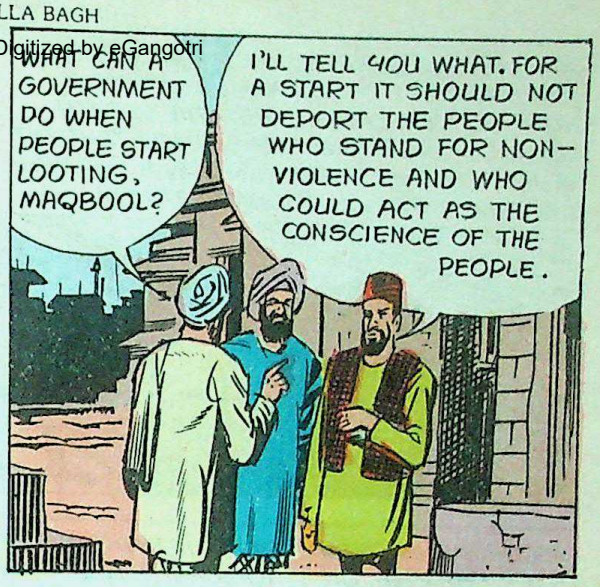

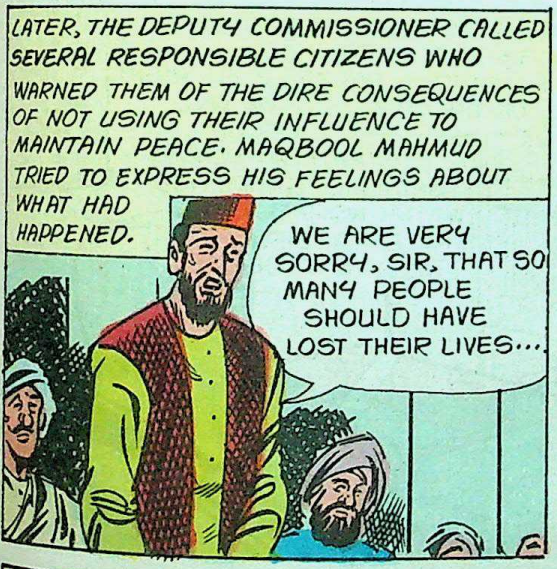

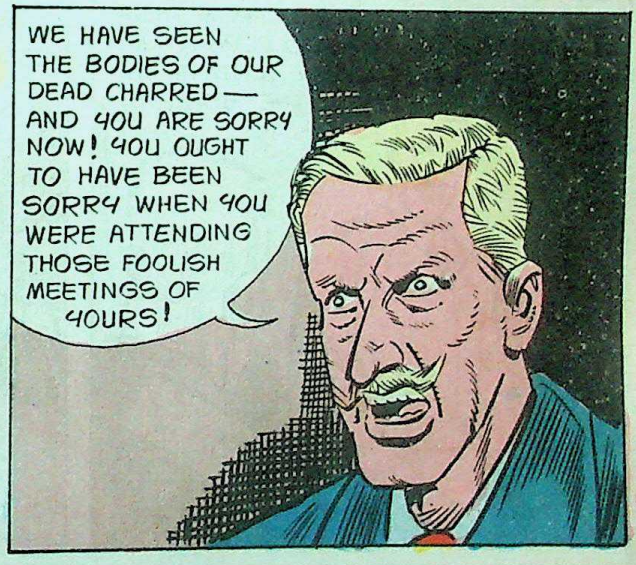

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BRIGADIER-GENERAL DYER ARRIVED IN AMRITSAR AT 9 P.M. ON APRIL 11. HE HAD A HURRIED CONFERENCE WITH THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE THAT VERY NIGHT IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE AT THE RAILWAY STATION.

THE WHOLE CITY IS HOSTILE TO THE BRITISH. WE ARE BESIEGED. CIVIL AUTHORITY HAS COME TO AN END. THE CITY IS IN YOUR CHARGE. NOW YOU MUST DO WHAT YOU CAN.

ACCORDINGLY DYER TOOK CHARGE ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 12.

SEND AEROPLANES TO SURVEY THE CITY FROM THE AIR AND REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY ON THE STREETS.

SOON HE RECEIVED REPORTS OF THE AERIAL SURVEY.

SIR, THE CROWDS ARE BEGINNING TO COLLECT IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CITY.

ALL RIGHT. WE WILL OCCUPY STRATEGIC PLACES — BRIDGES, GATES AND WATER-WORKS TO RE-ESTABLISH CONTROL.

AT 10 A.M. DYER TOURED THE CITY TO IMPRESS THE CITIZENS WITH A SHOW OF BRITISH MIGHT.

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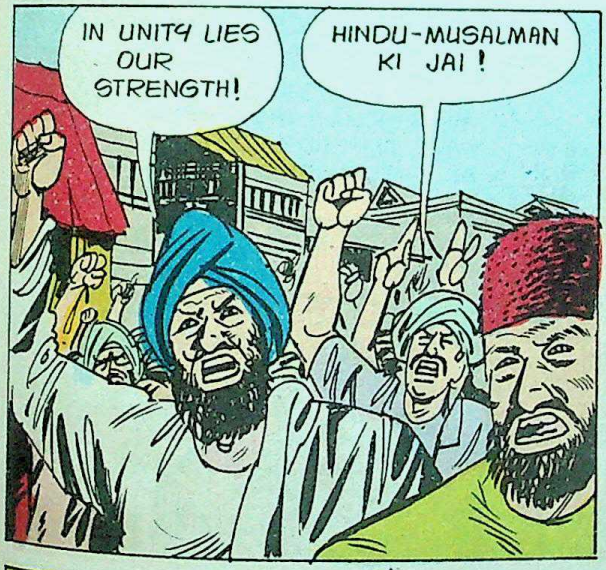

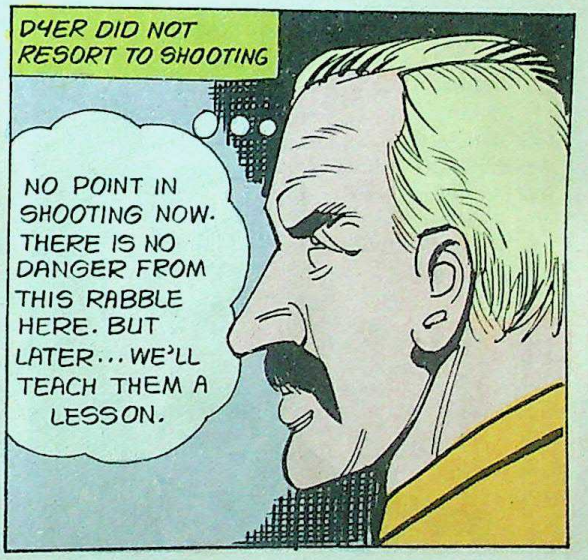

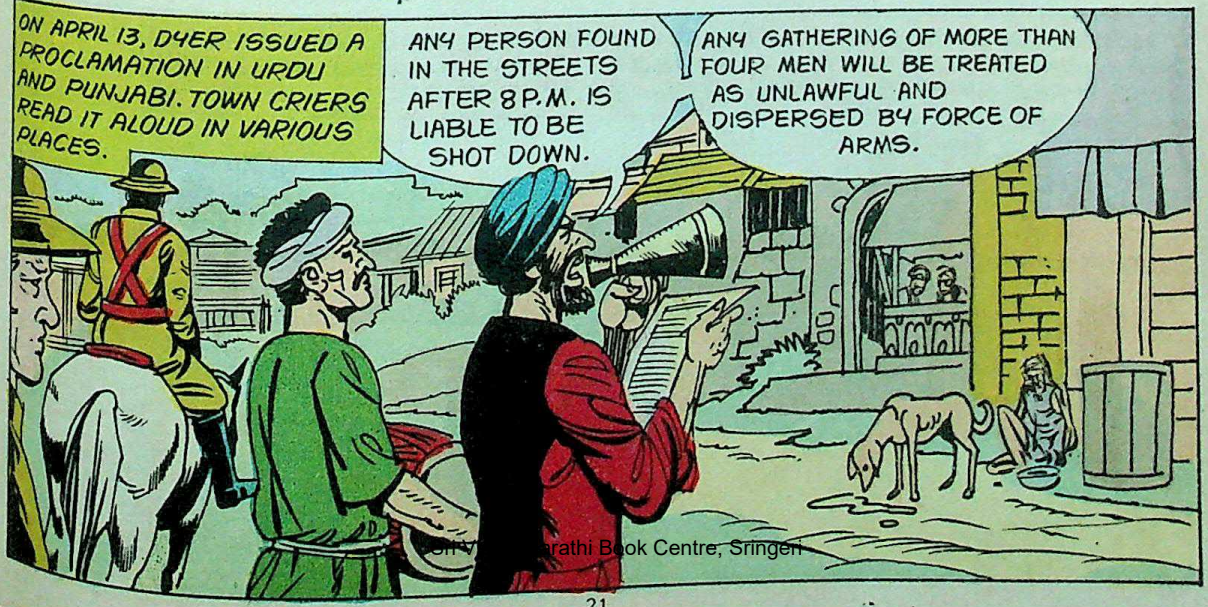

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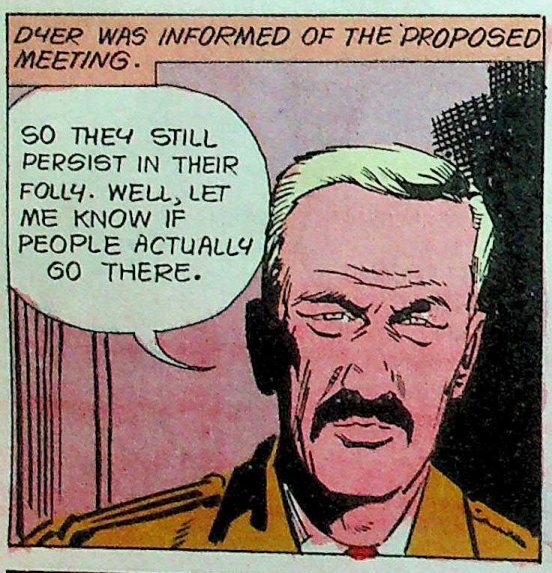

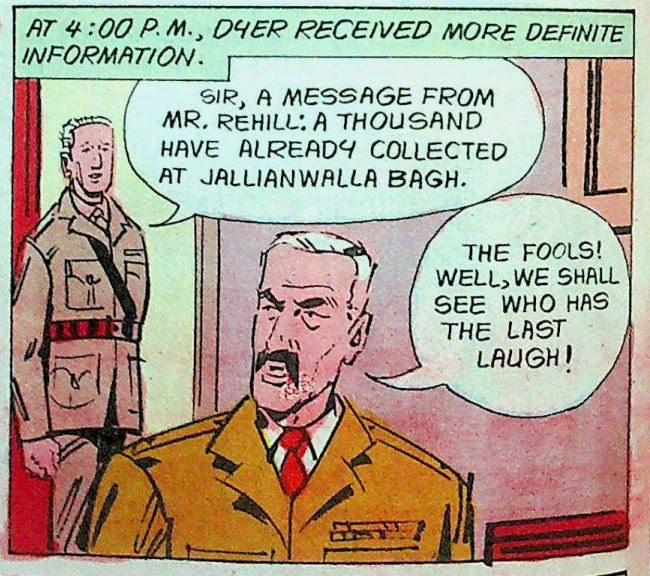

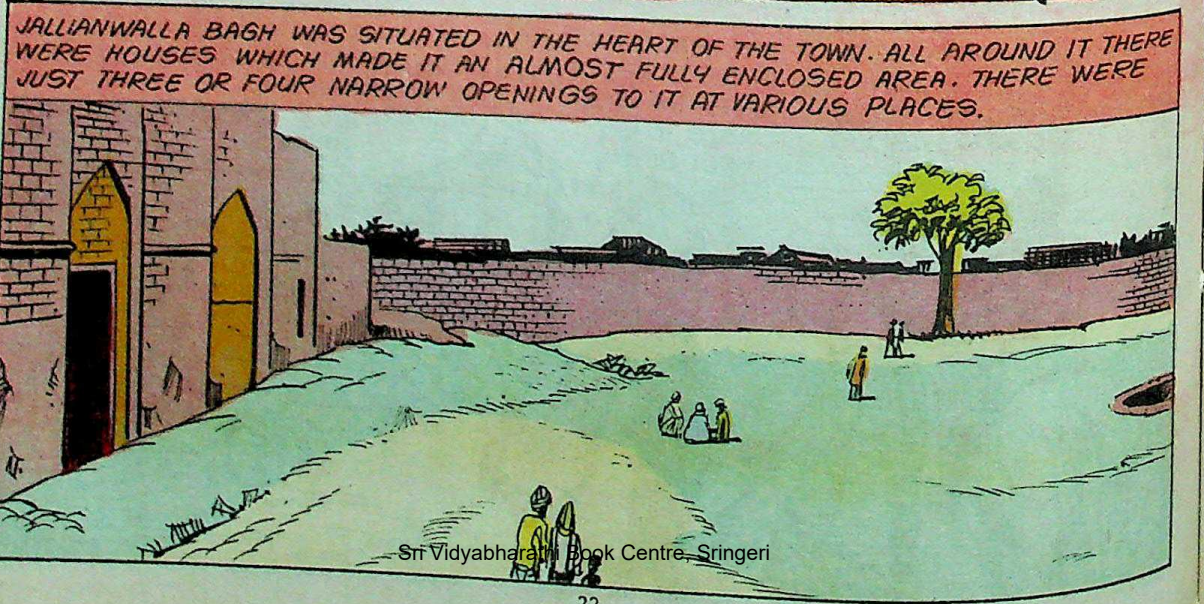

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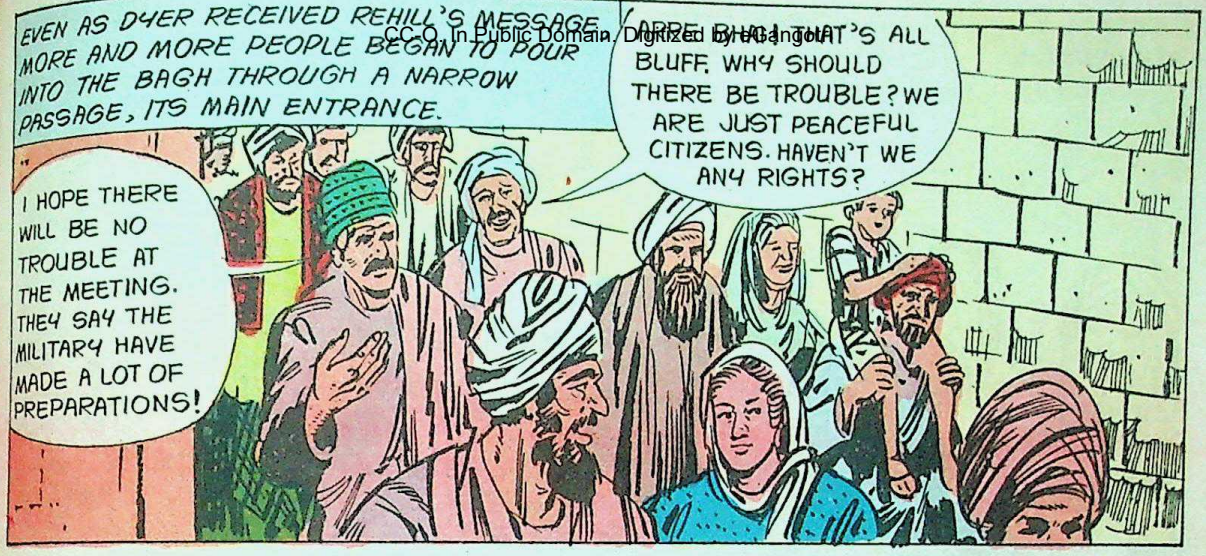

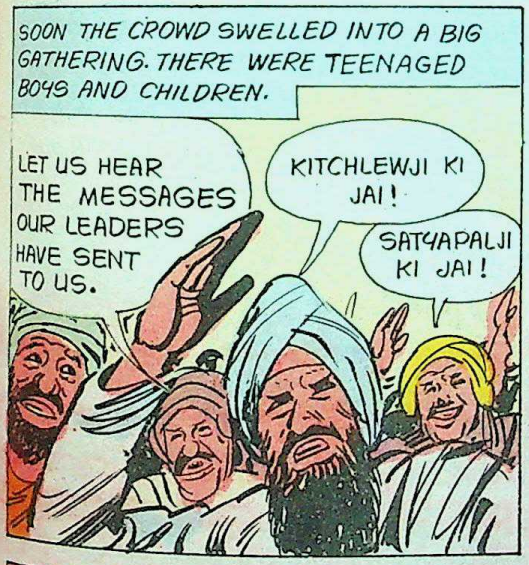

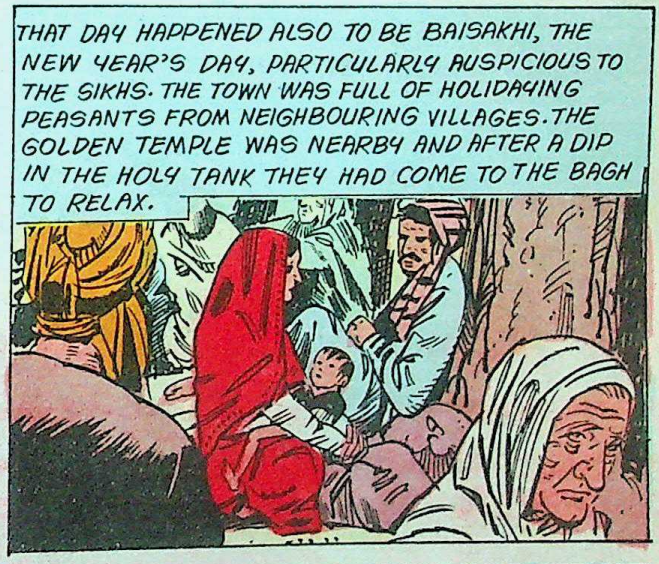

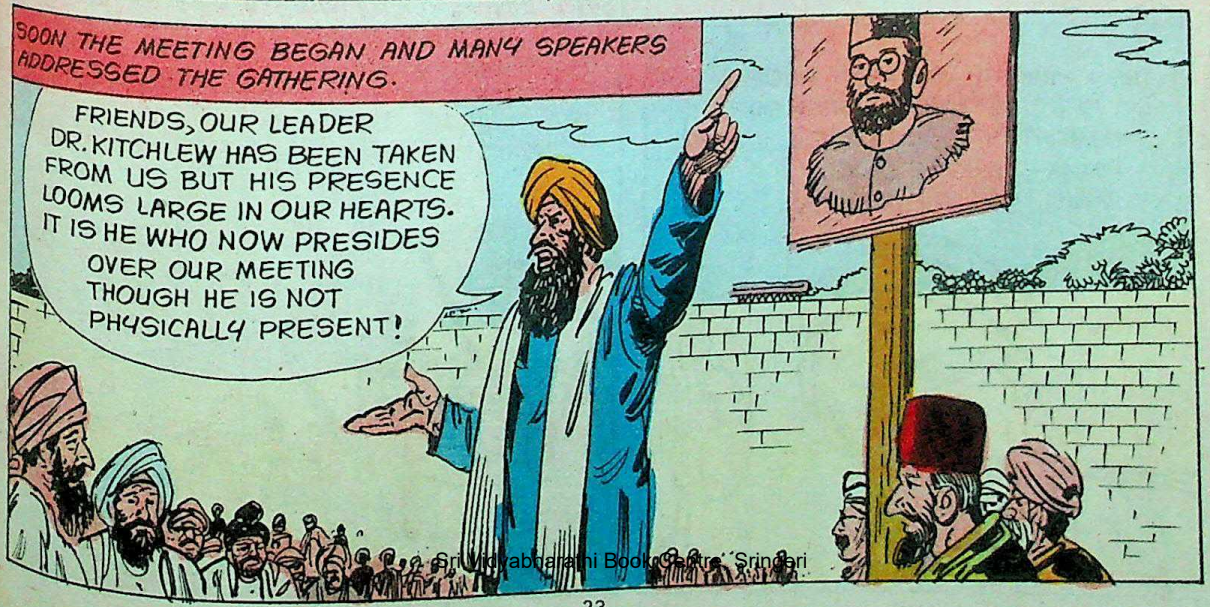

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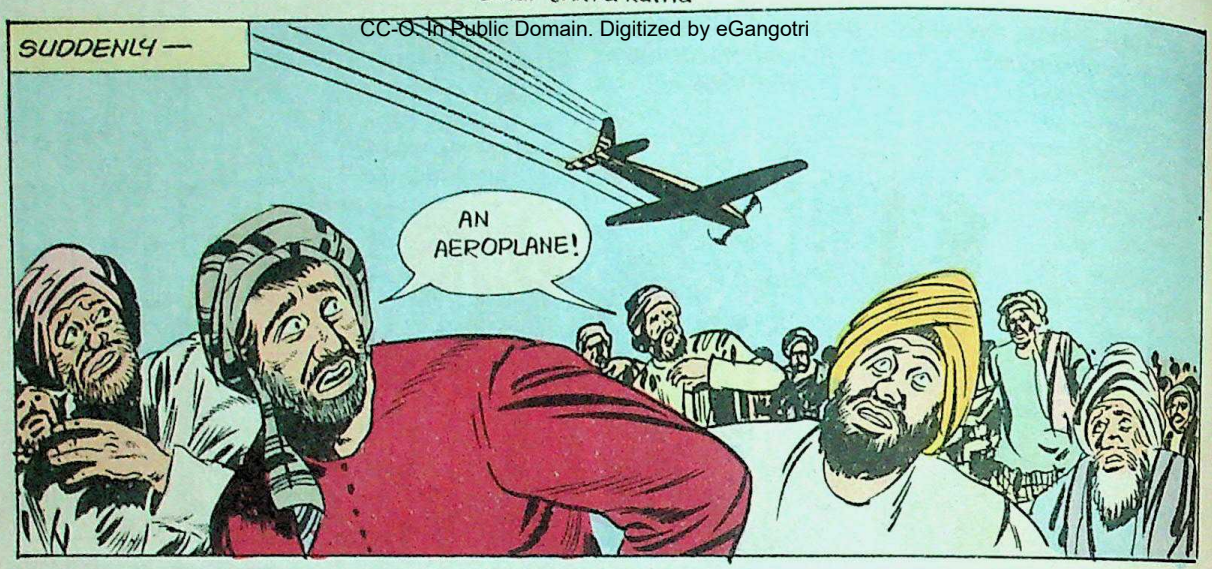

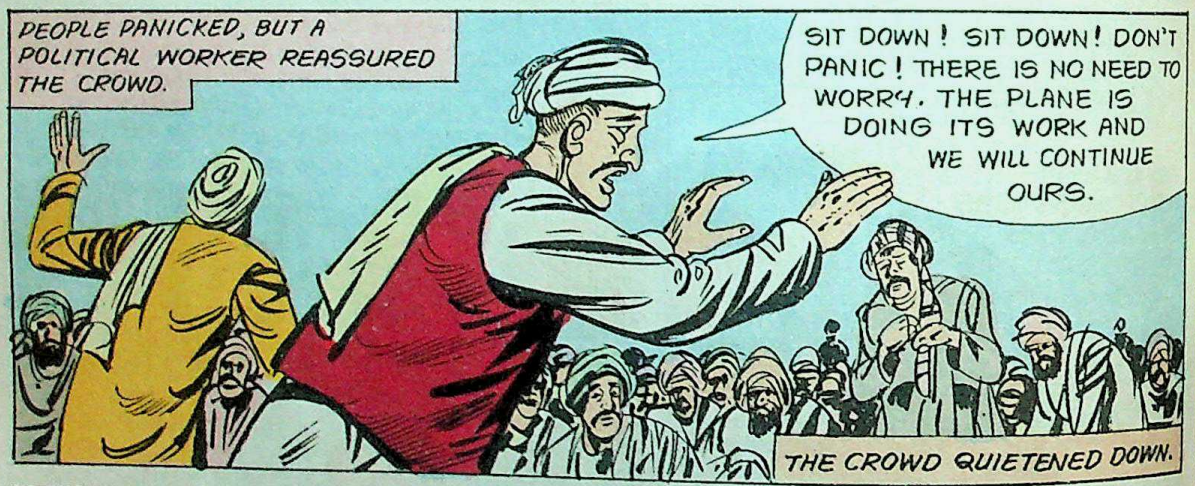

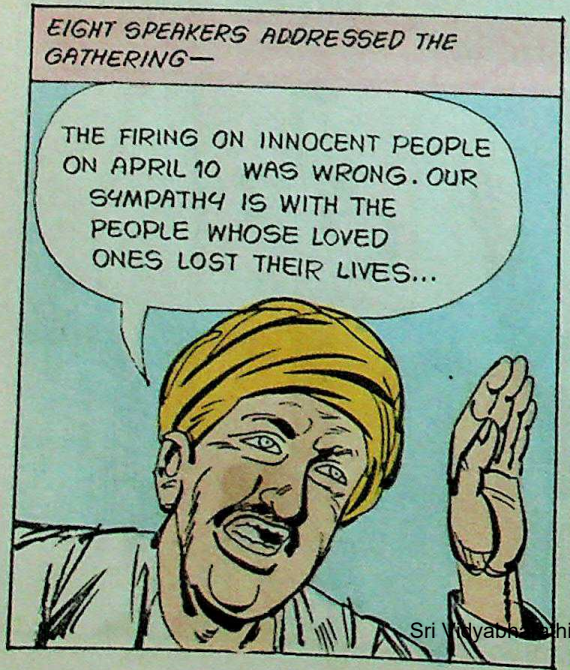

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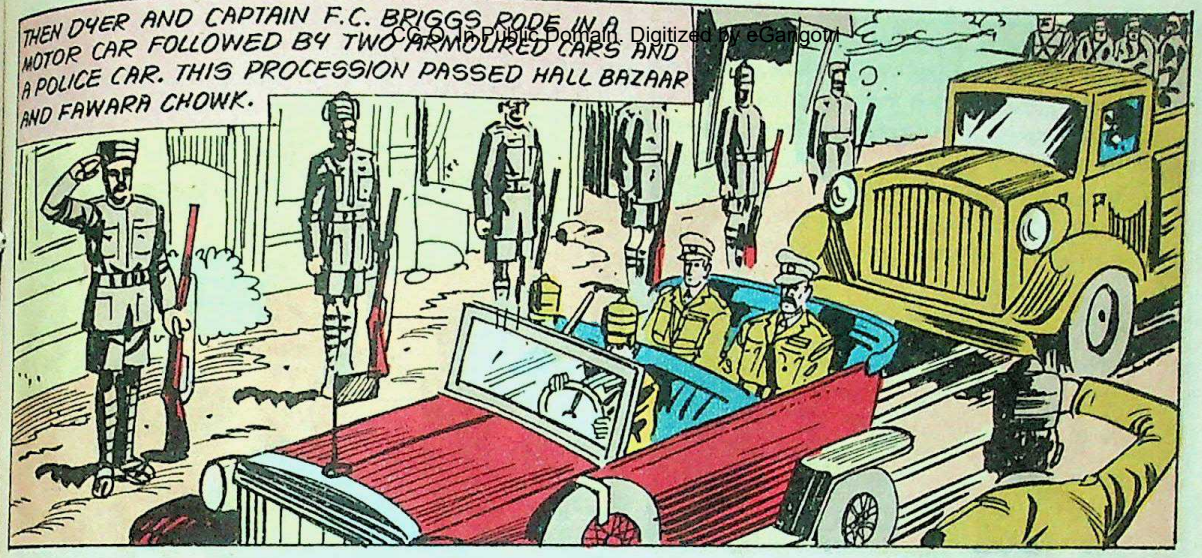

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DYER AND BRIGGS ADVANCED UP THE NARROW PASSAGEWAY FOLLOWED BY THE TROOPS. COMING TO THE END OF THE PASSAGE THEY SAW AN IMMENSE CROWD.

HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU THINK ARE ASSEMBLED HERE, BRIGGS?

ABOUT 5,000 OR SO, I BELIEVE.

BUT IT LATER TURNED OUT THAT THERE WERE AT LEAST 25,000.

WITHIN 30 SECONDS DYER DEPLOYED HIS TROOPS— THE GURKHAS TO THE LEFT, AND THE BALUCHIS TO THE RIGHT.

AROUND 5:15, THE NINTH SPEAKER, DURGA DAS VAID, THE EDITOR OF WAQT, WAS SPEAKING.

...THE REPRESSIVE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT...

HE WAS INTERRUPTED BY ALARMED SHOUTS.

THEY HAVE COME! THEY HAVE COME!

OH, GOD!

ARMED SOLDIERS!

SECONDS LATER, GENERAL DYER GAVE THE ORDER—

FIRE!

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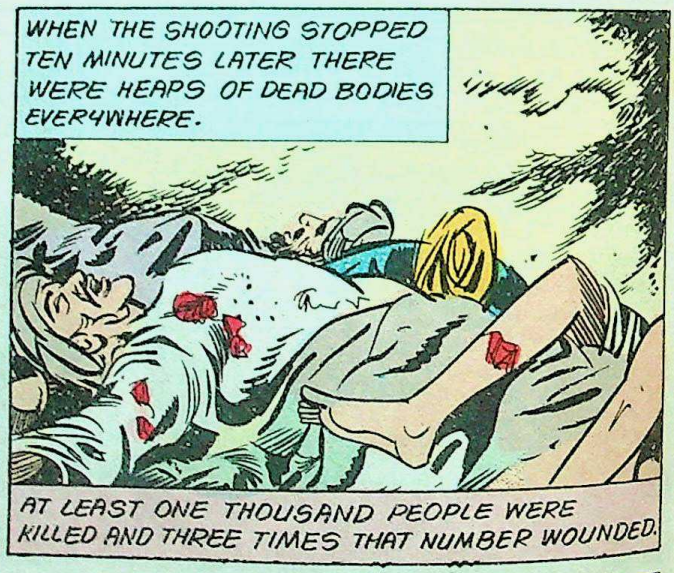
THERE WERE FOUR OR FIVE SMALL GAPS AMONG THE BUILDINGS SURROUNDING THE BAGH AND PEOPLE STARTED RUNNING TOWARDS THOSE.

UNDER DYER'S ORDER THE GUNS WERE DIRECTED STRAIGHT AT THE NARROW GAPS THROUGH WHICH PEOPLE WERE TRYING TO ESCAPE.

PEOPLE CONTINUED TO FALL, BUT STILL THE SHOOTING DID NOT STOP.

WHEN THE SHOOTING STOPPED TEN MINUTES LATER THERE WERE HEAPS OF DEAD BODIES EVERYWHERE.



AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND THREE TIMES THAT NUMBER WOUNDED.

THE WOUNDED CRIED OUT.

BUT THE SOLDIERS JUST MARCHED AWAY.

EVEN IN A WAR, WOUNDED ENEMY SOLDIERS ARE GIVEN FIRST AID. BUT AT JALLIANWALLA BAGH UNARMED CITIZENS WERE ABANDONED TO DIE IN MISERY.

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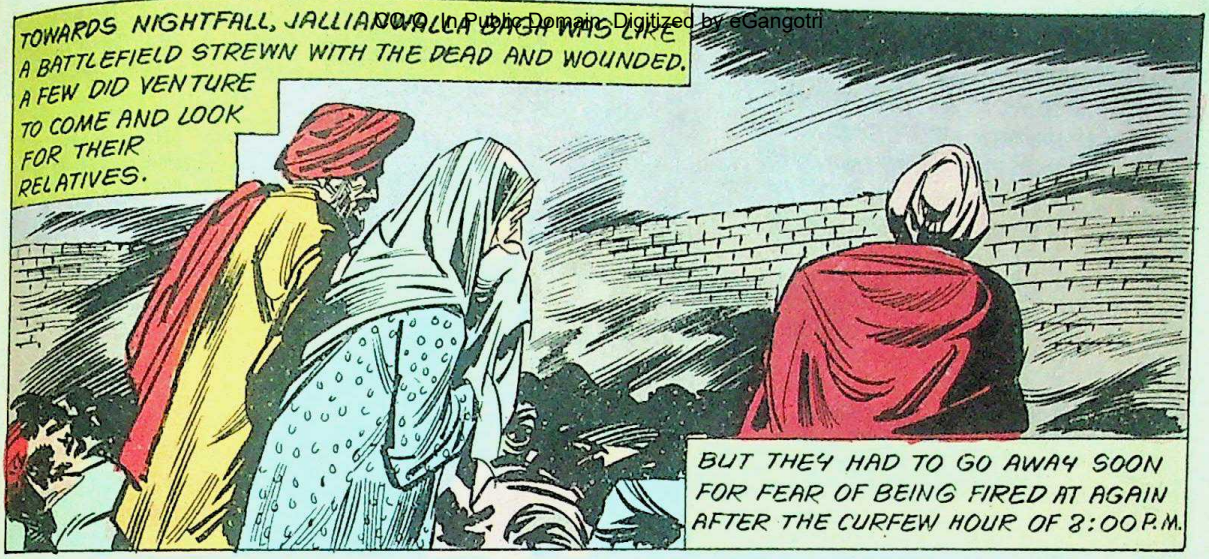

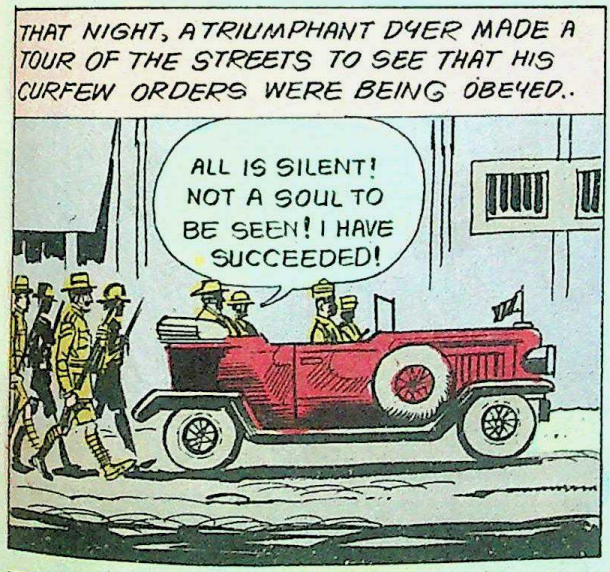

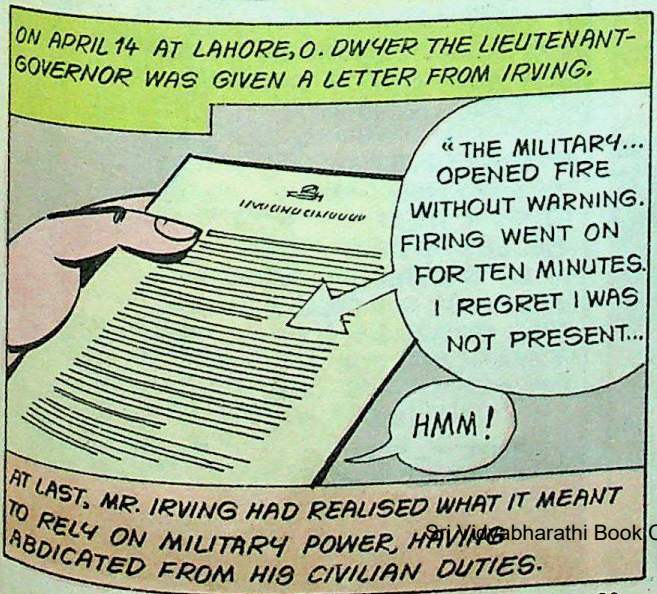

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WHAT HAPPENED AT JALLIANWALLA BAGH CAME TO BE TERMED "A FRIGHTFUL ACT" BY ALL RIGHT-MINDED BRITISH PEOPLE. BUT THE GOVERNMENT REMAINED UNPERTURBED. EVERY ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO COVER UP THE "FRIGHTFULNESS" OF THE DEED.

ONLY 200 DEAD? WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT? WE HAVE PREVENTED A RECURRENCE OF "EXCESSES". WE HAVE CRUSHED A REBELLION.

ACTUALLY IT WAS LATER ESTIMATED THAT AT LEAST 1000 HAD DIED, AND 3000 HAD BEEN WOUNDED.

MANY SENIOR BRITISH OFFICIALS APPROVED OF DYER'S ACTION.

THE WISDOM OF GENERAL DYER'S ACTION HAS BEEN FULLY PROVED BY THE FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER TROUBLE OF ANY SORT IN AMRITSAR.

DYER HAS AVERTED SOMETHING LIKE A GENERAL REBELLION THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE OF NORTHERN INDIA!

THE BRITISH TRIED TO SUPPRESS THE JALLIANWALLA BAGH EPISODE. THERE WAS CENSORSHIP IN THE INDIAN PAPERS AND PEOPLE WERE NOT ALLOWED FREELY INTO PUNJAB. BUT NEWS WENT ROUND BY WORD OF MOUTH, ALL THE SAME.

THE JALLIANWALLA BAGH INCIDENT DID ENORMOUS HARM TO THE BRITISH IMAGE IN INDIA. FOR INSTANCE, MOTILAL NEHRU HAD ALWAYS BELIEVED IN BRITISH FAIR PLAY AND JUSTICE. NOW HIS CONFIDENCE IN IT WAS SHAKEN.

ARE INNOCENT PERSONS, WHO CAME TO HEAR THEIR LEADERS SPEAK, TO BE TREATED AS CRIMINALS? AND DO THEY HAVE TO BE SCAPEGOATS FOR THE ACTS OF THE CRIMINALS?

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LEADING CONGRESSMEN DEMANDED THE RIGHT TO ENTER PUNJAB TO INVESTIGATE. WHEN FINALLY THEY WERE ALLOWED TO SEE THE PLACE FOR THEMSELVES, THEY WERE SHOCKED.

THE BULLET MARKS ON THE WALLS SHOW THAT DYER AIMED DIRECTLY WHERE THE FLEEING CROWDS WERE THICKEST! HE MUST HAVE JUST MOWED THEM DOWN!

FROM WHERE HE STOOD, DYER MUST HAVE SEEN THAT THE CROWD HAD NO WAY OF ESCAPE. THEY WERE TRAPPED INSIDE. MEN AND CHILDREN, JUST SHOT OUT IN COLD BLOOD?

THE NON-OFFICIAL ENQUIRY COMMITTEE, OF WHICH GANDHIJI WAS AN IMPORTANT MEMBER, STATED:

"THE JALLIANWALLA MASSACRE WAS A CALCULATED PIECE OF INHUMANITY TOWARDS INNOCENT AND UNARMED MEN, INCLUDING CHILDREN AND UNPARALLELED IN ITS FEROCITY IN THE HISTORY OF MODERN BRITISH ADMINISTRATION."

AS THE NEWS SLOWLY TRICKLED THROUGH INDIA, THERE WAS A GENERAL OUTCRY. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT COULD HIDE THE FACTS NO LONGER. FINALLY THE GOVERNMENT WAS FORCED TO SET UP A COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY. IT WAS CALLED THE HUNTER COMMITTEE.

WAS IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO DISPERSE THE CROWD WITHOUT FIRING?

I COULD HAVE DISPERSED THEM FOR SOME TIME. BUT THEN THEY WOULD ALL HAVE COME BACK AND LAUGHED AT ME AND I CONSIDERED I WOULD BE MAKING MYSELF A FOOL.

THE HUNTER COMMITTEE CRITICISED DYER ON TWO GROUNDS. DYER HAD OPENED FIRE WITHOUT WARNING AND HE HAD GONE ON FIRING AFTER THE CROWD HAD BEGUN TO DISPERSE.

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TILL THEN DYER HAD BEEN CONSIDERED A HERO BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. BUT NOW THE TIDE WAS TURNING AGAINST HIM.

HIS ACTION WAS IN EXCESS OF HIS BRIEF. THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCEPT HIS EXTREME STEP.

A MONTH LATER DYER RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

YOUR APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO RESIGN FROM YOUR APPOINTMENT SHOULD BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

DYER RECEIVED A SHOCK. HE BELIEVED HE HAD DONE THE GOVERNMENT A GREAT SERVICE. HE SENT IN HIS RESIGNATION, BUT ALONG WITH IT HE SENT A LETTER OF PROTEST.

"I WILL SUBMIT TO DISCIPLINE, BUT I WILL NOT SUBMIT TO DISGRACE. I HAVE ACTED RIGHTLY. I HAVE SAVED THE PUNJAB."

DYER LEFT FOR ENGLAND AND THERE PRESENTED HIS OWN VERSION OF THE CASE. MANY ENGLISHMEN AGREED WITH DYER. THEY FELT THAT BY DEALING SEVERELY WITH PUNJAB, HE HAD PREVENTED THE TROUBLE FROM SPREADING TO OTHER STATES.

DYER IS RIGHT. ISN'T HE BEING MADE THE SCAPEGOAT OF POLITICIANS!

OF COURSE! HE SAVED THE BRITISH EMPIRE!

AS FAR AS INDIANS WERE CONCERNED, THE JALLIANWALLA BAGH EPISODE WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE BRITISH RAJ.

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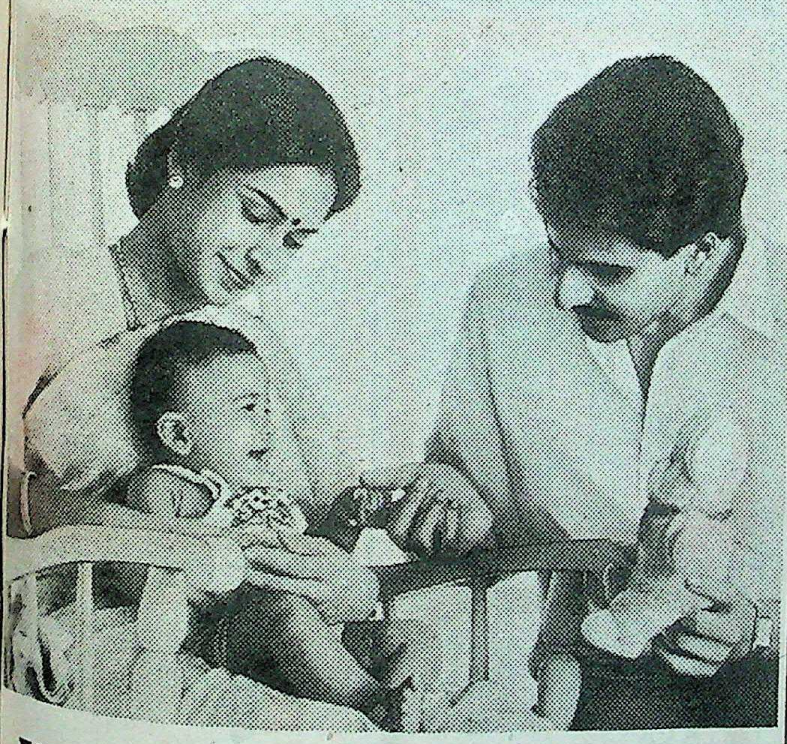
Unit Trust's Children's Gift Growth Fund 1986.



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Mahabharata–16

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Amar Chitra Katha
No. 359 June 15, 1986

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ANANT PAI

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Artworks
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Art Consultant
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Production
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*

Published by:
H.G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026
and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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1123 Broadway Suite 1010
New York N.Y. 10010

Subscriptions: (in India only)
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YUDHISHTHIRA'S RAJASOOYA YAJNA

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Mahabharata – 16

THE PANDAVAS CONQUER THE WORLD

WHEN KRISHNA HEARD THAT YUDHISHTHIRA WANTED TO MEET HIM, O MONARCH, HE WENT TO INDRAPRASTHA, EAGER TO MEET THE SON OF KUNTI.

YUDHISHTHIRA AND BHEEMA WELCOMED HIM. KRISHNA THEN VISITED HIS FATHER'S SISTER, KUNTI. AFTERWARDS, ACCEPTING THE SALUTATIONS OF THE TWINS, HE SPENT SOME PLEASANT HOURS IN THE COMPANY OF HIS FRIEND ARJUNA.

"THEN, AS HE RESTED IN HIS APARTMENT, YUDHISHTHIRA APPROACHED HIM...

"... AND TOLD HIM OF HIS INTENTIONS. HE SAID:

I WISH TO PERFORM THE RAJASOOYA YAJNA, BUT IT CANNOT BE DONE BY MERE WISHING. HE ALONE CAN PERFORM IT WHO IS OMNIPOTENT, WHO COMMANDS RESPECT EVERYWHERE AND WHO IS THE MASTER OF ALL.

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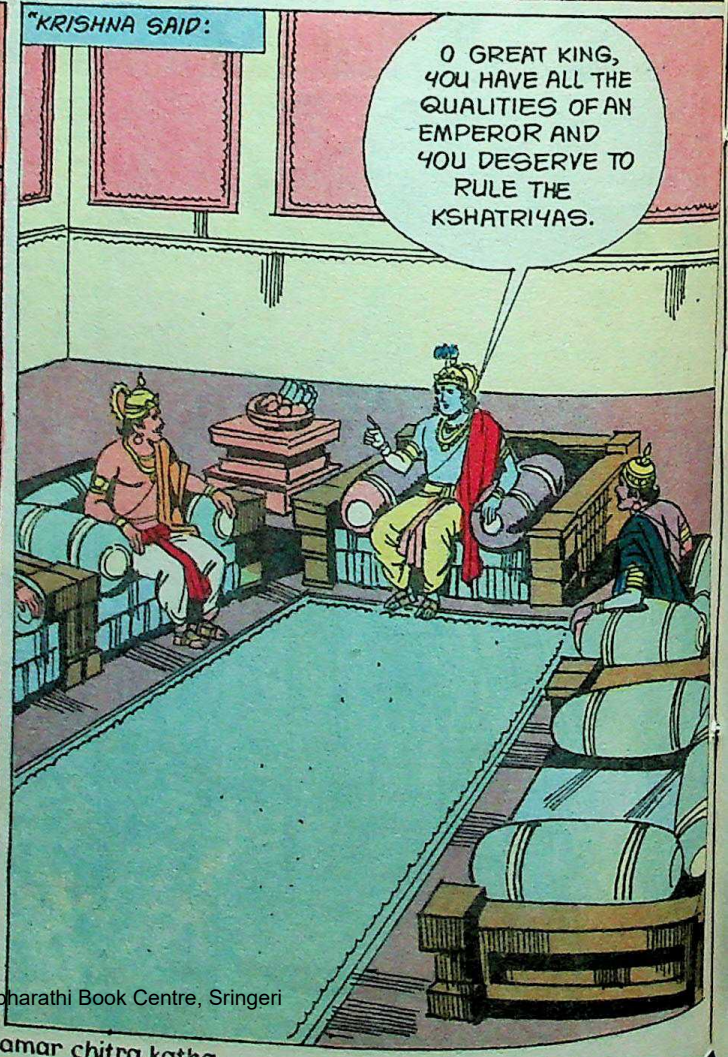

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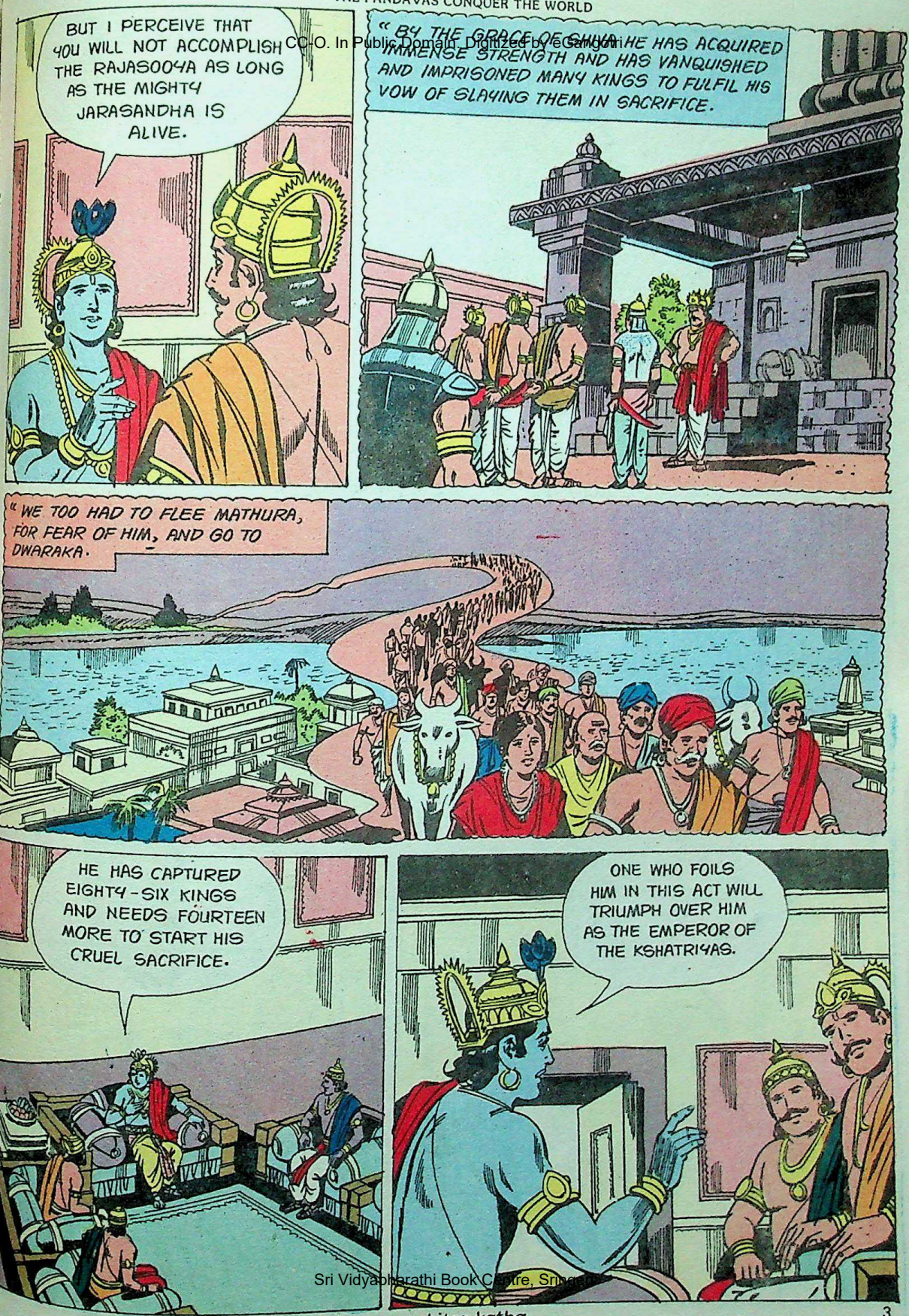

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IF YOU INTEND TO PERFORM THE RAJASOOYA, YOU MUST BRING ABOUT JARASANDHA'S DEATH AND SET FREE THE KINGS IMPRISONED IN HIS FORT.

"YUDHISHTHIRA SAID:

O, UNASSAILABLE HERO, YOUR MIGHT IS MY REFUGE. WHEN YOU EXPRESS DOUBTS YOURSELF HOW CAN I BE STRONG ENOUGH TO FACE HIM?

"THEN BHEEMA SAID:

KRISHNA KNOWS THE STRATEGY, I POSSESS THE STRENGTH AND ARJUNA THE WILL TO WIN. LIKE THE THREEFOLD SACRIFICIAL FIRE, WE SHALL ACHIEVE OUR GOAL IN SUBDUING JARASANDHA.

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"YUDHISHTHIRA REPLIED:

WHEN THE GREAT YAMA HIMSELF IS NO MATCH FOR JARASANDHA AND HIS FEROCIOUS ARMY, HOW WILL YOU FARE WITH YOUR EFFORTS?

HOW CAN I SEND YOU, O KRISHNA, TO JARASANDHA MERELY BECAUSE I COVET THE STATUS OF AN EMPEROR?

LIFE WITHOUT YOU THREE IS MEANINGLESS FOR ME. I WOULD BE BEREFT OF DHARMA, ARTHA AND KAMA. IF BHEEMA AND ARJUNA ARE MY EYES YOU VERILY ARE MY MIND.

HOW SHALL I SURVIVE WITHOUT MY EYES AND MY MIND?

THE RAJASOOYA YAJNA APPEARS ILL-OMENED. IT FOREBODES DISASTER. IT OPPRESSES MY MIND.

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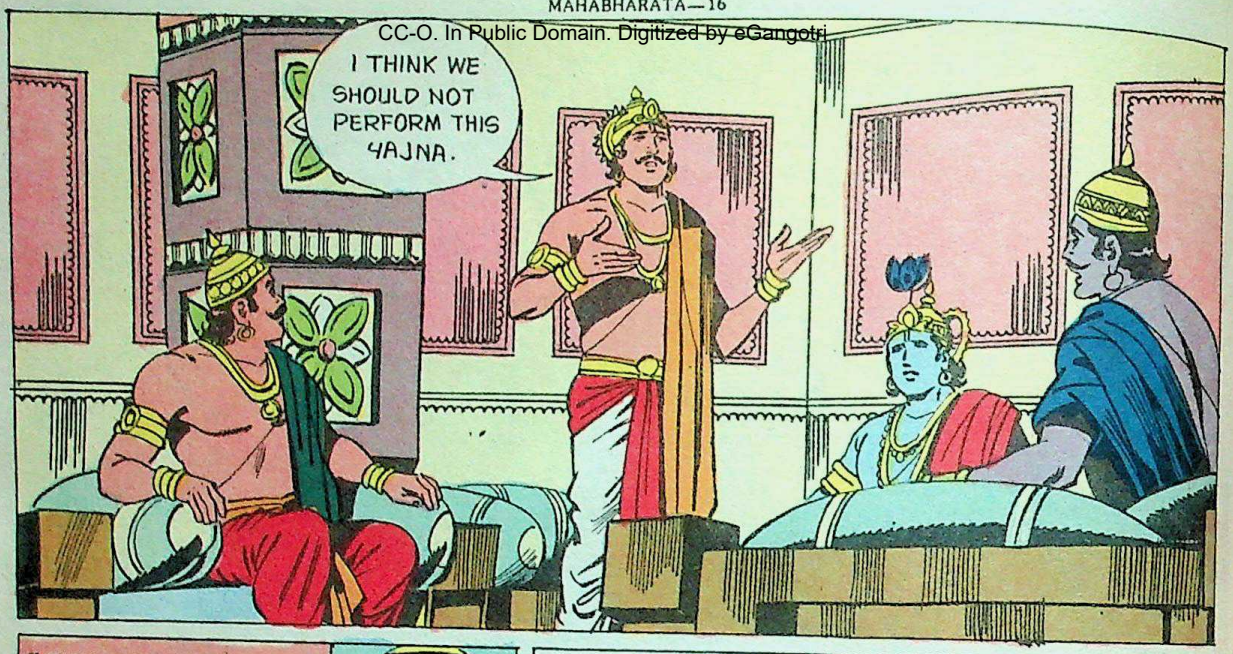

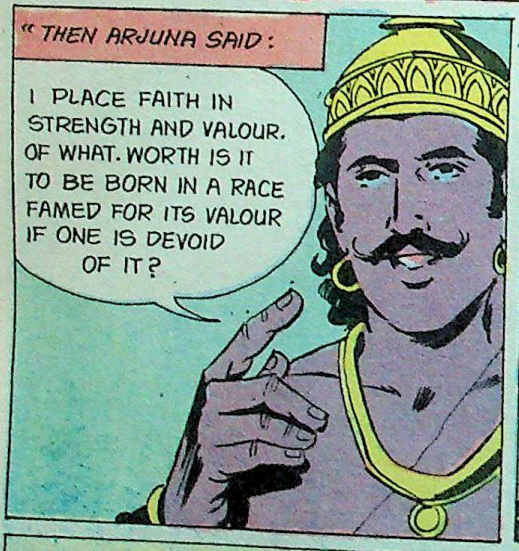

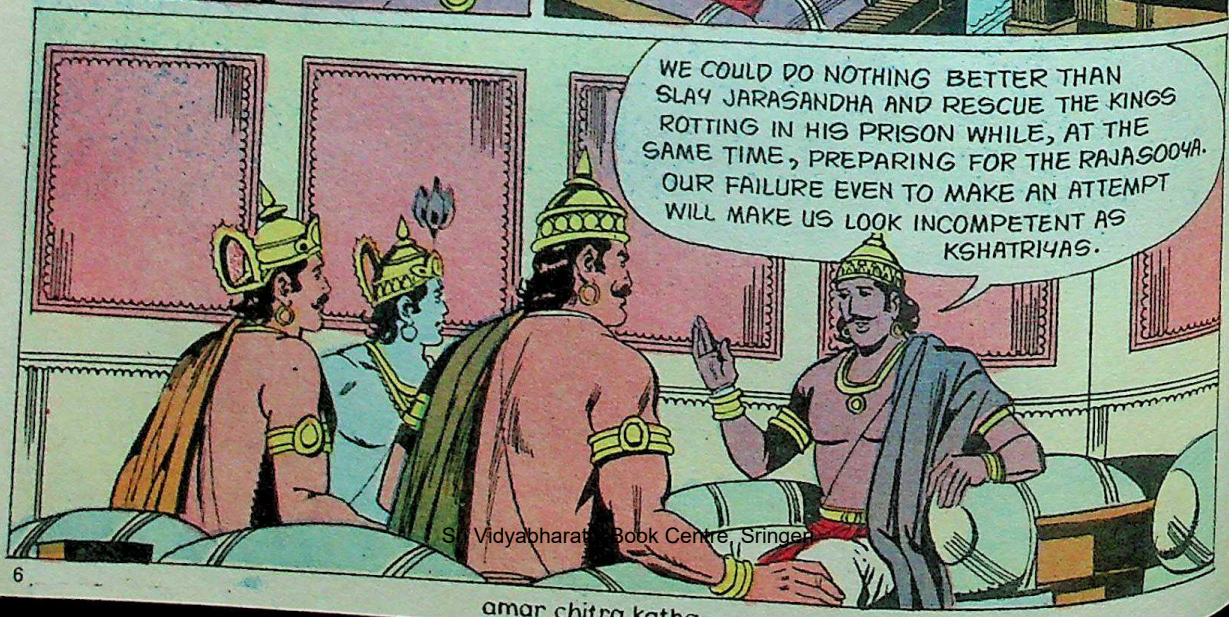

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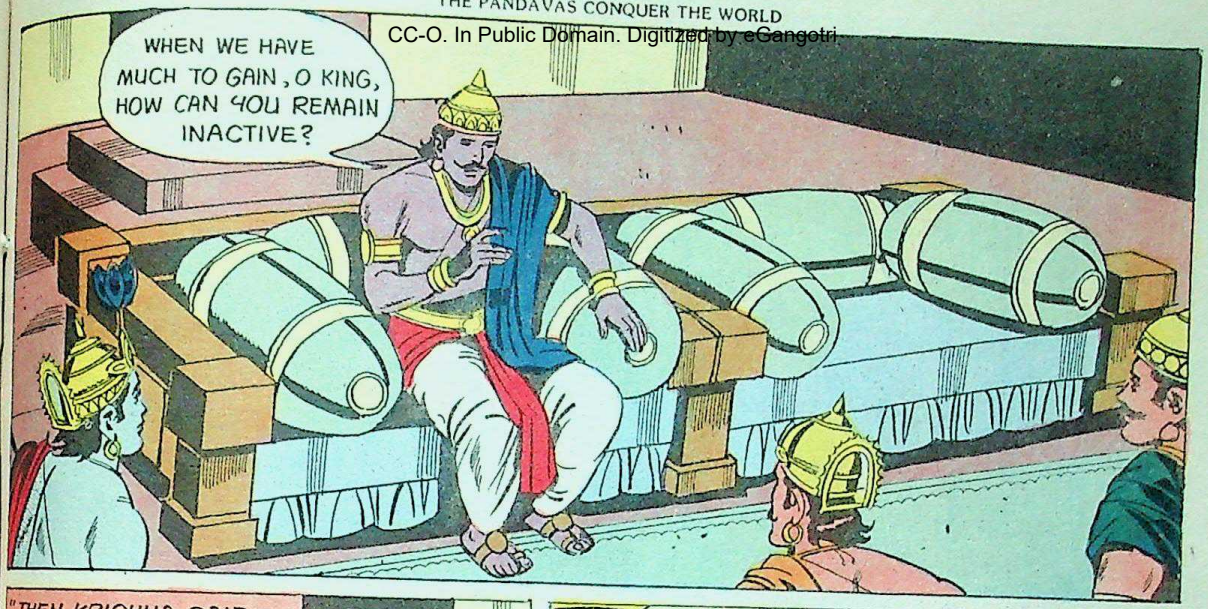

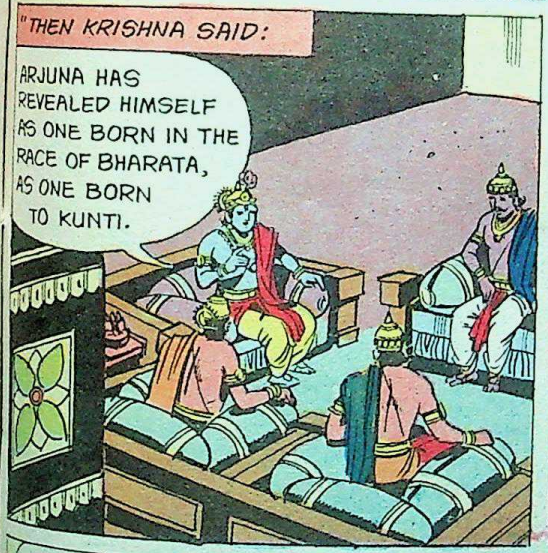

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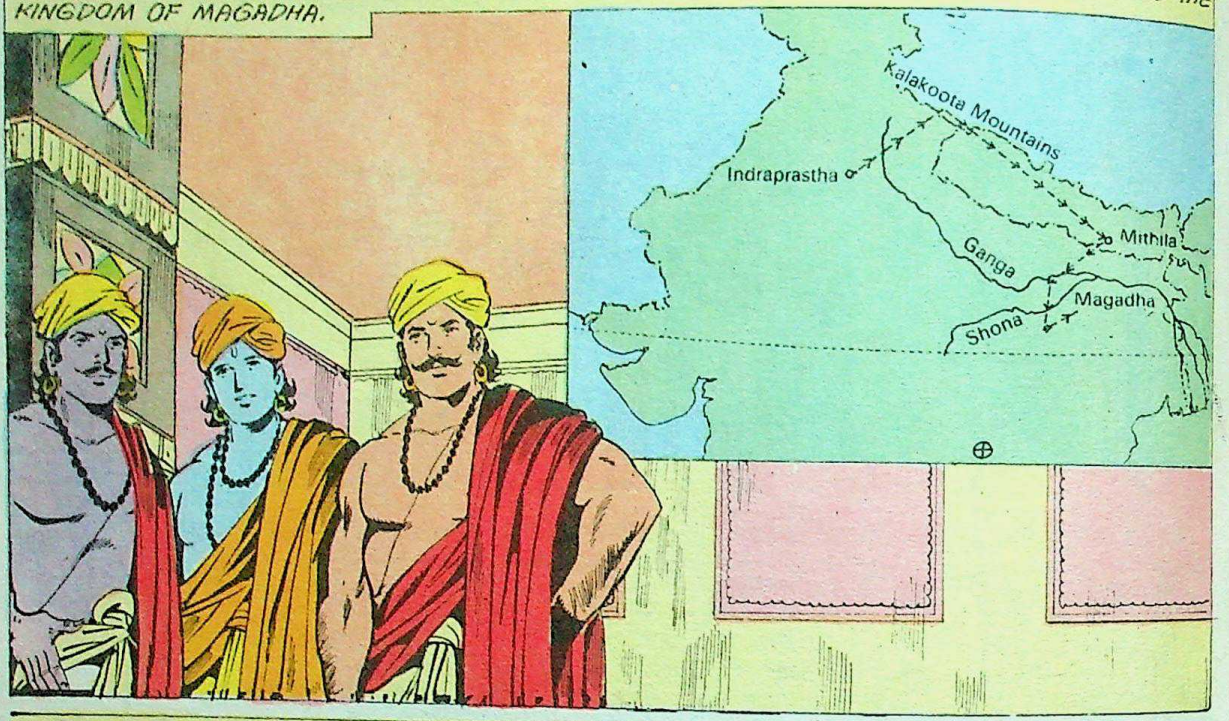
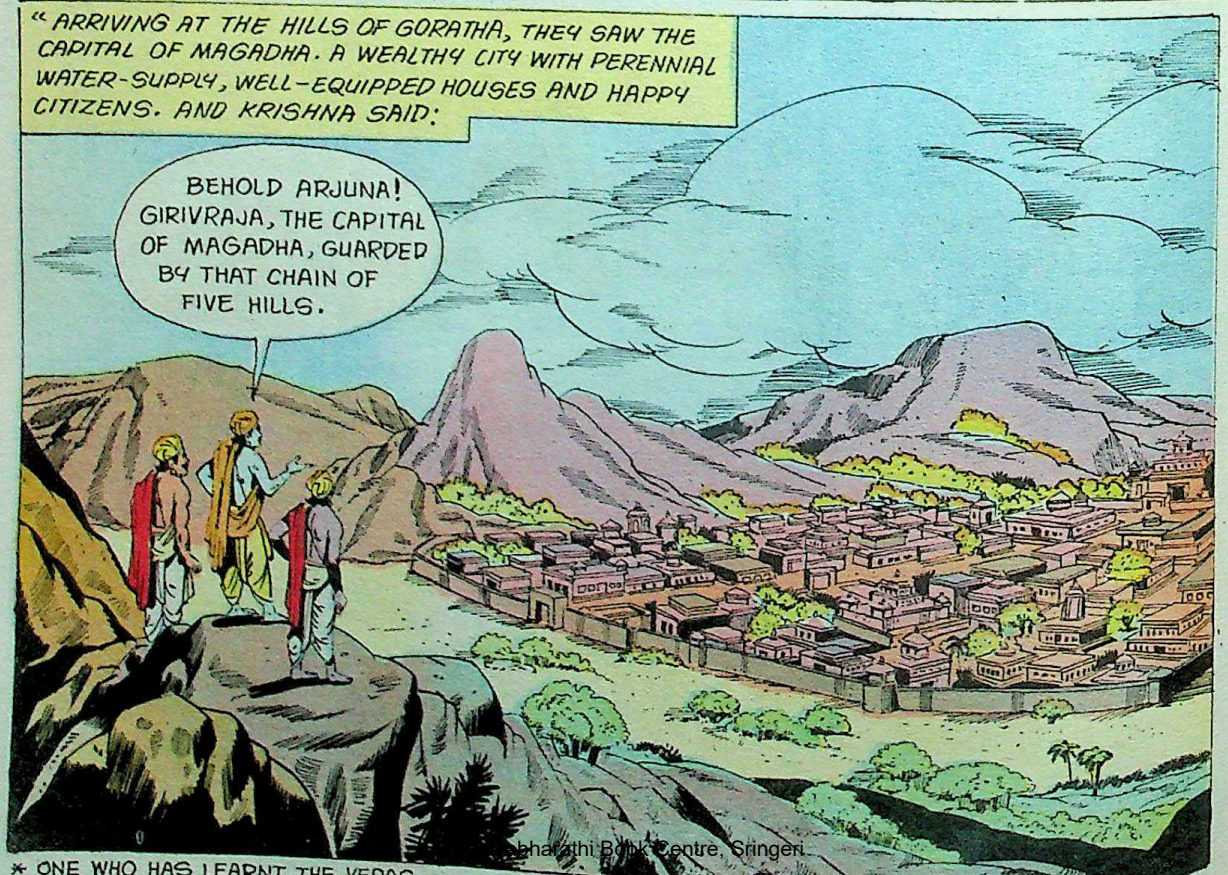
"THUS ADDRESSED BY YUDHISHTHIRA, THE MONARCH, THE THREE SET OUT FOR MAGADHA DRESSED AS SNATAKA* BRAHMANAS. SETTING OUT FROM THE KURU KINGDOM THEY CROSSED THE KALAKOOTA MOUNTAIN, AS WELL AS SEVERAL RIVERS. THEY WENT ONWARD TO MITHILA, CROSSED THE GANGA AND THE SHONA WENDING THEIR WAY EASTWARD, TILL THEY ENTERED THE KINGDOM OF MAGADHA.



"ARRIVING AT THE HILLS OF GORATHA, THEY SAW THE CAPITAL OF MAGADHA. A WEALTHY CITY WITH PERENNIAL WATER-SUPPLY, WELL-EQUIPPED HOUSES AND HAPPY CITIZENS. AND KRISHNA SAID:



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* ONE WHO HAS LEARNT THE VEDAS.

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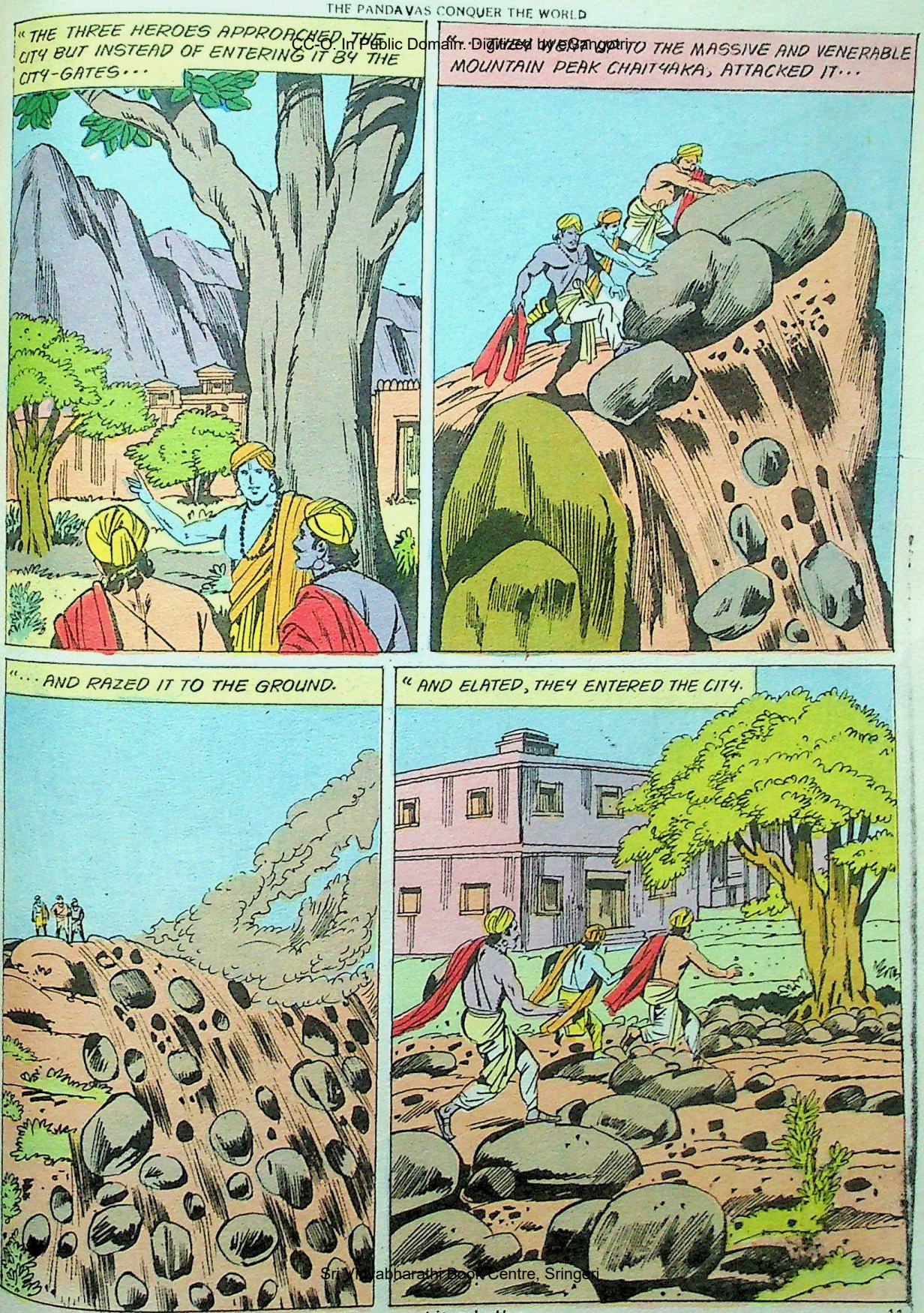

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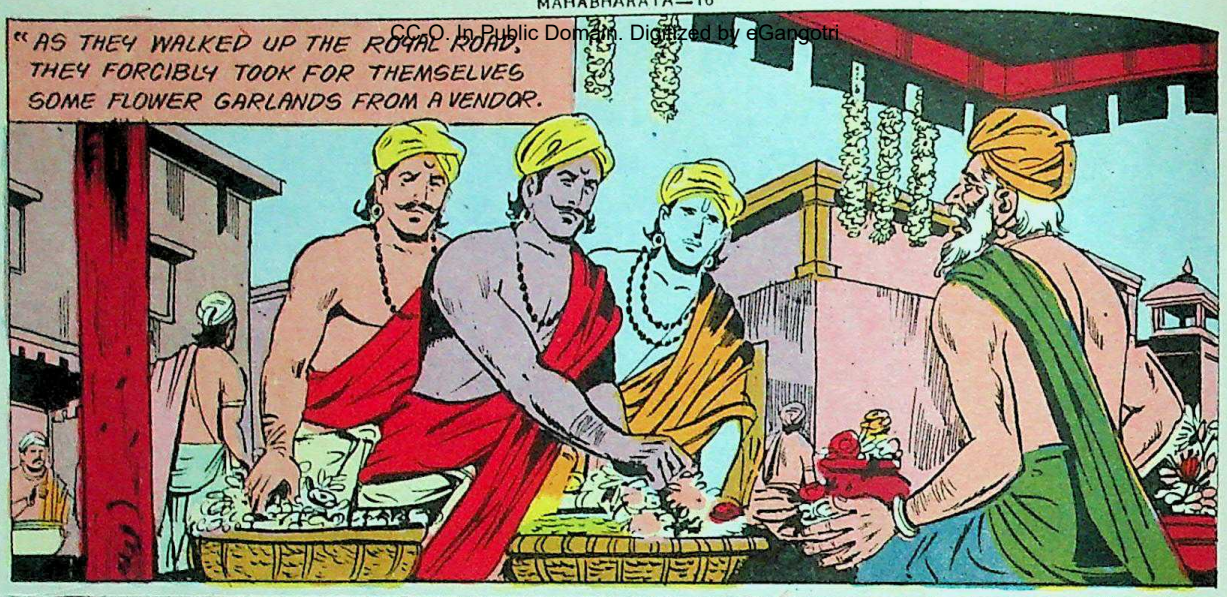

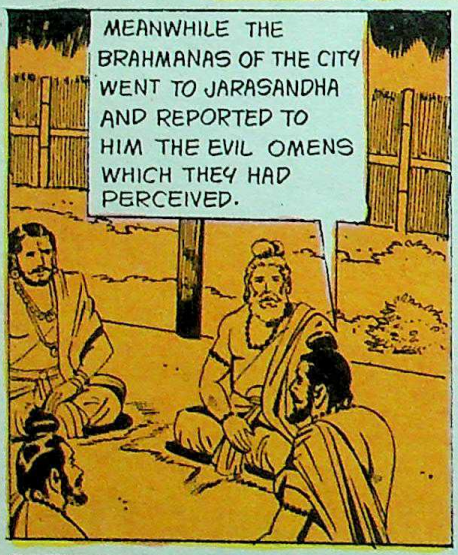

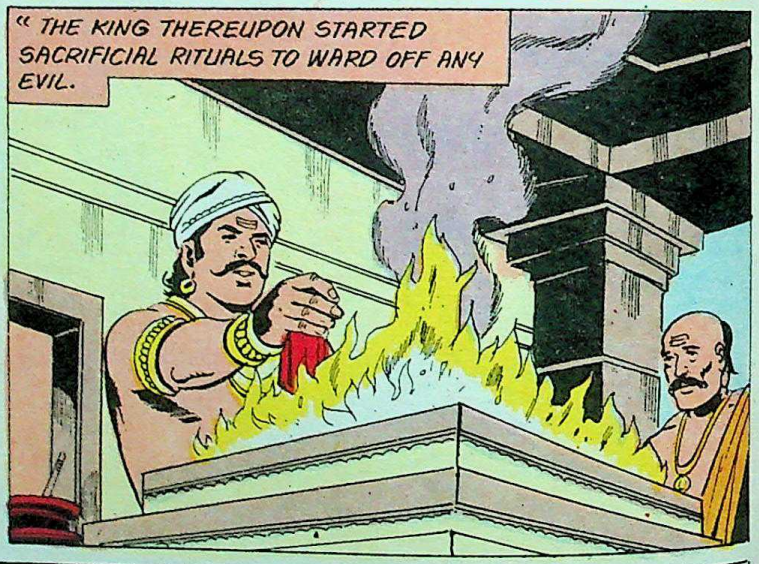

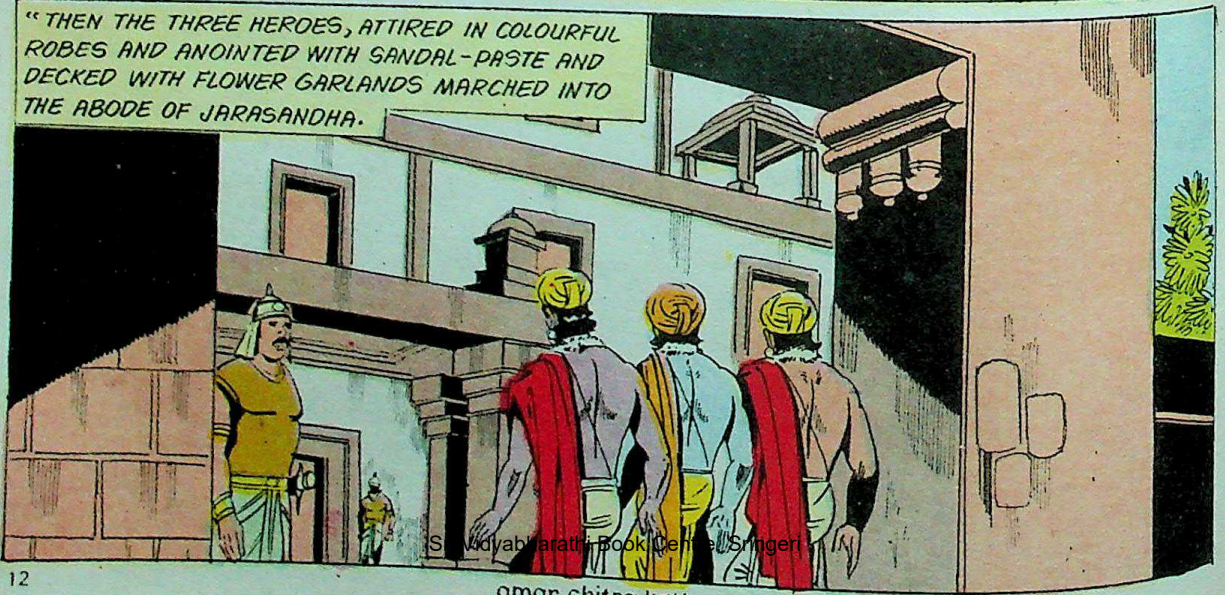

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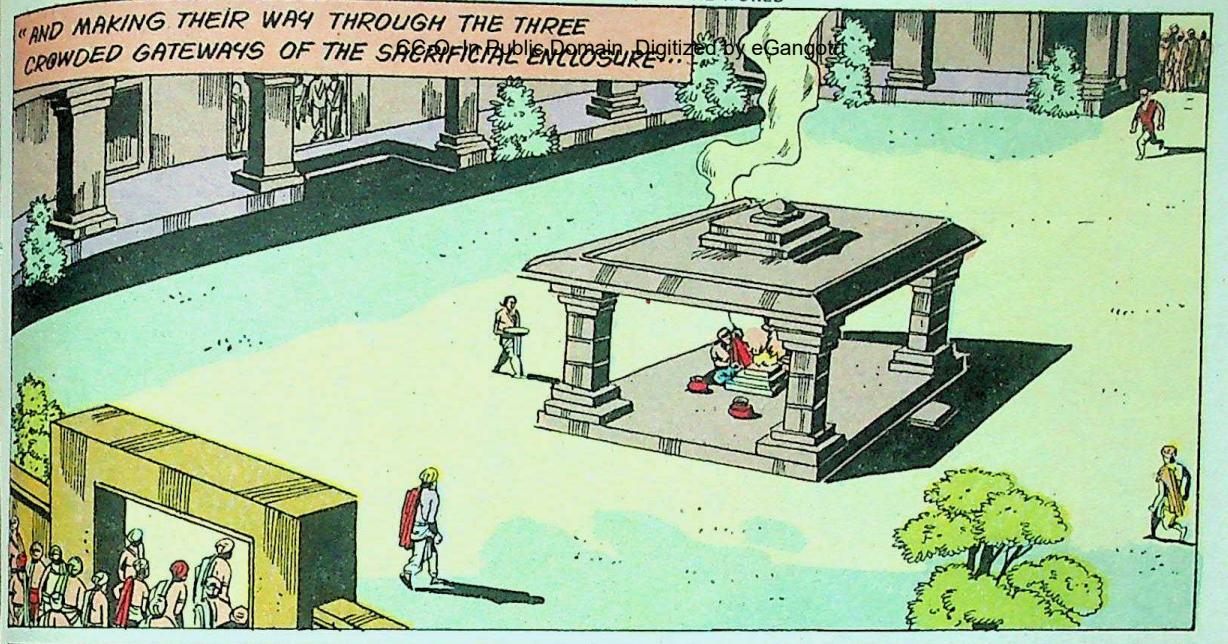

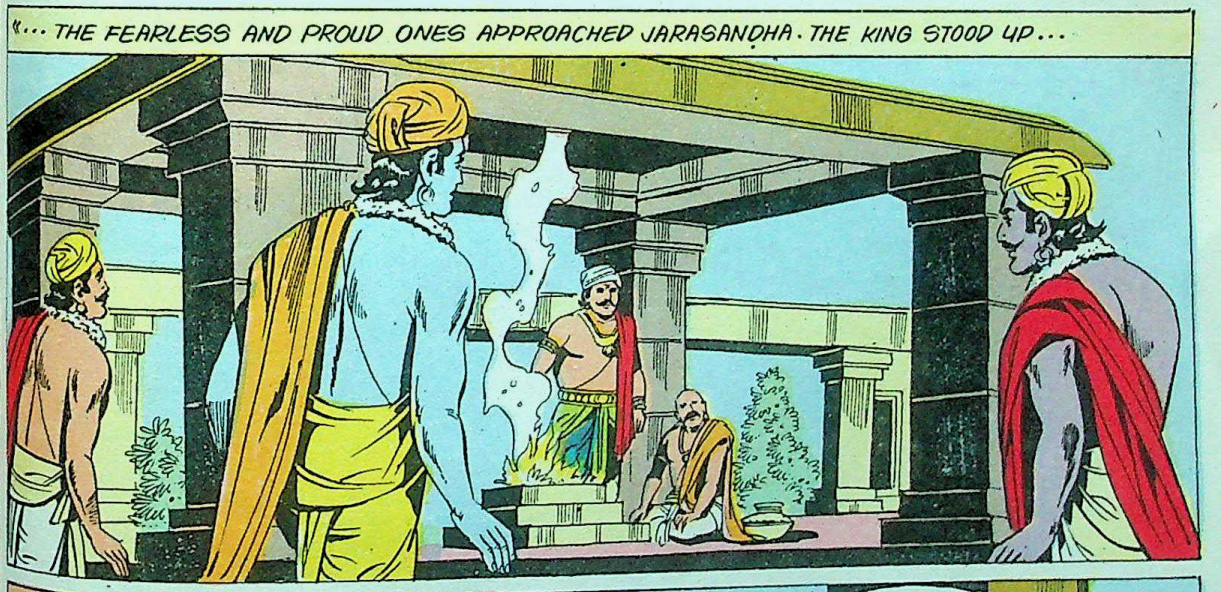

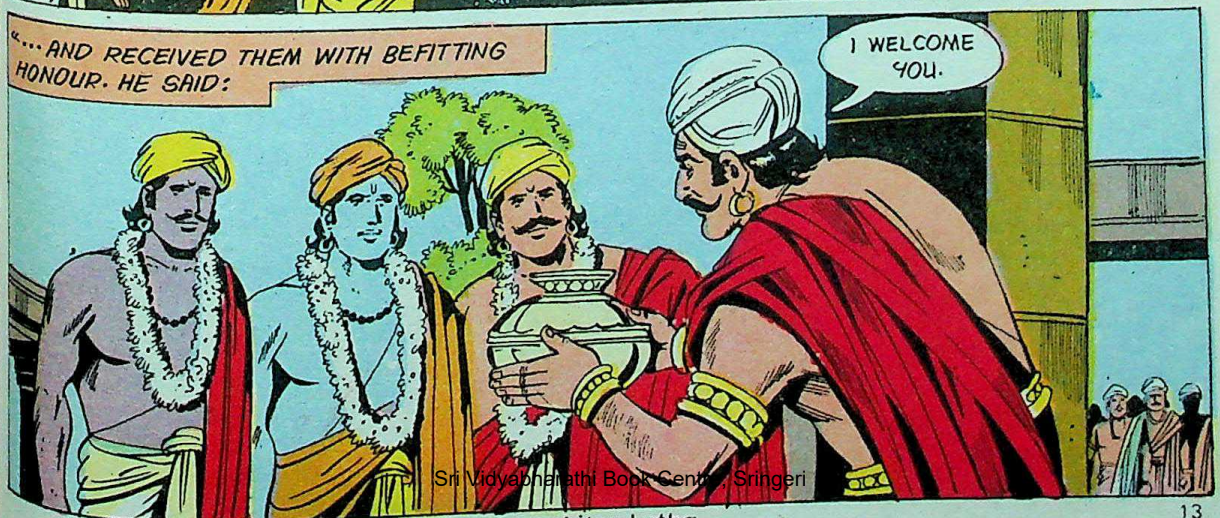

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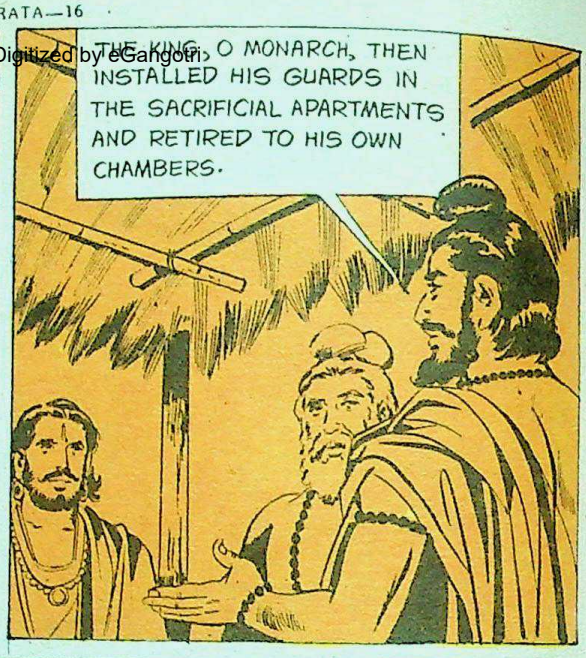

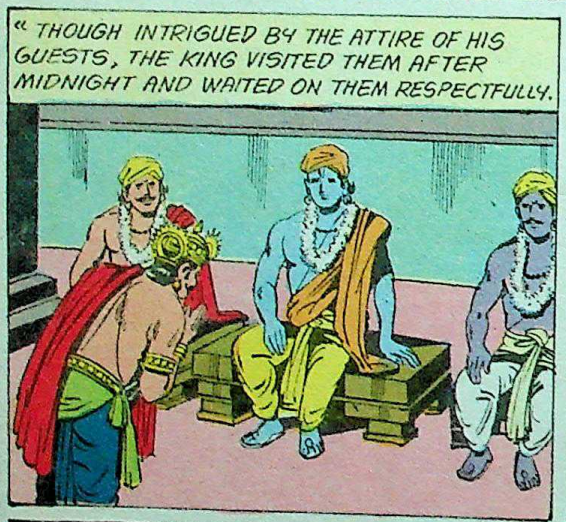

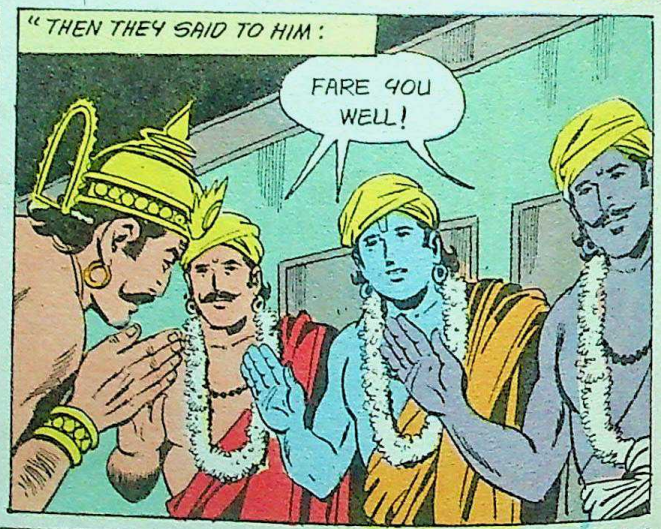

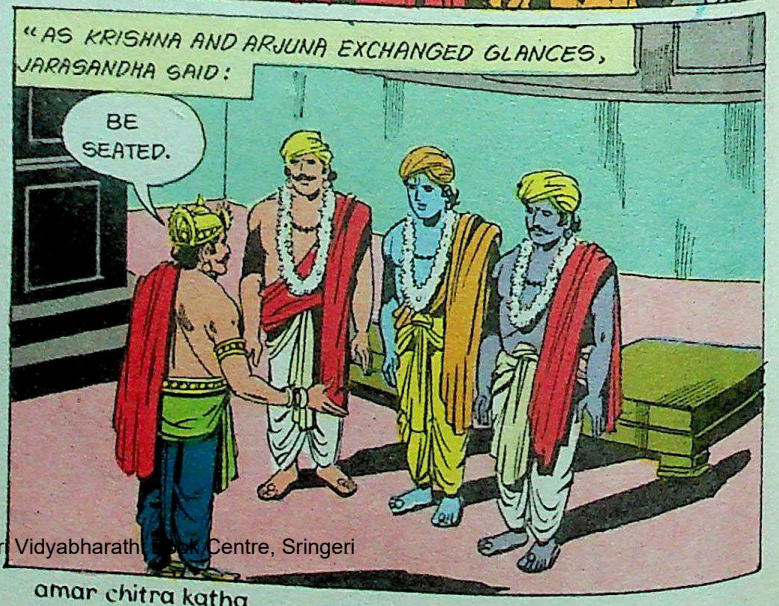

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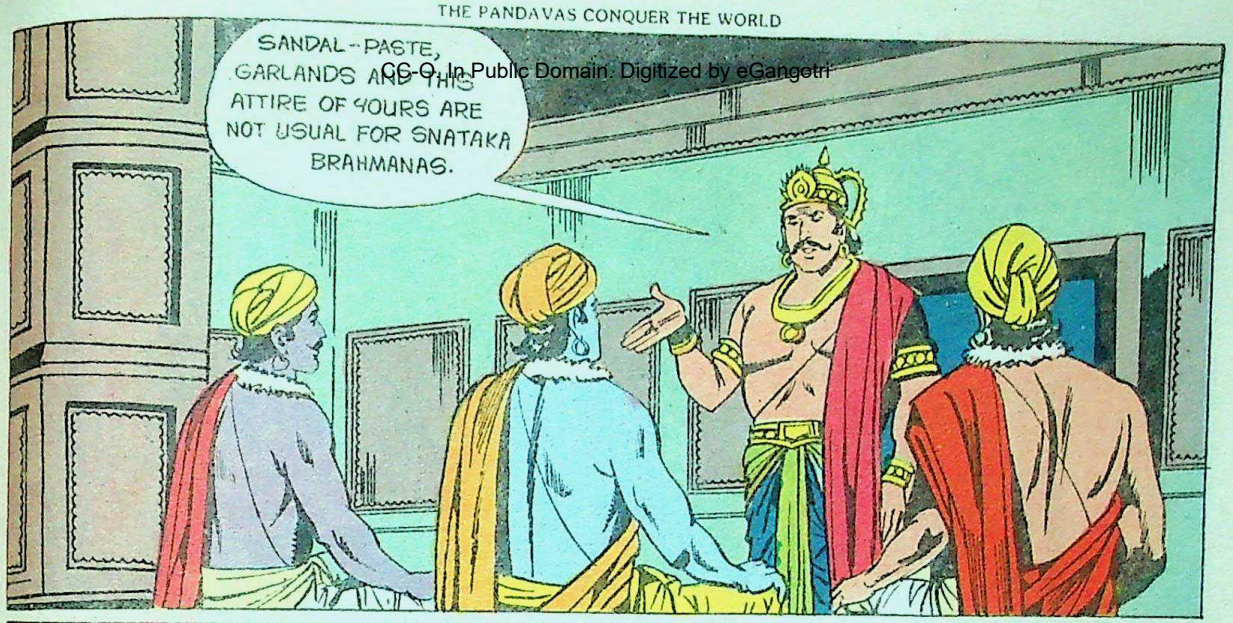

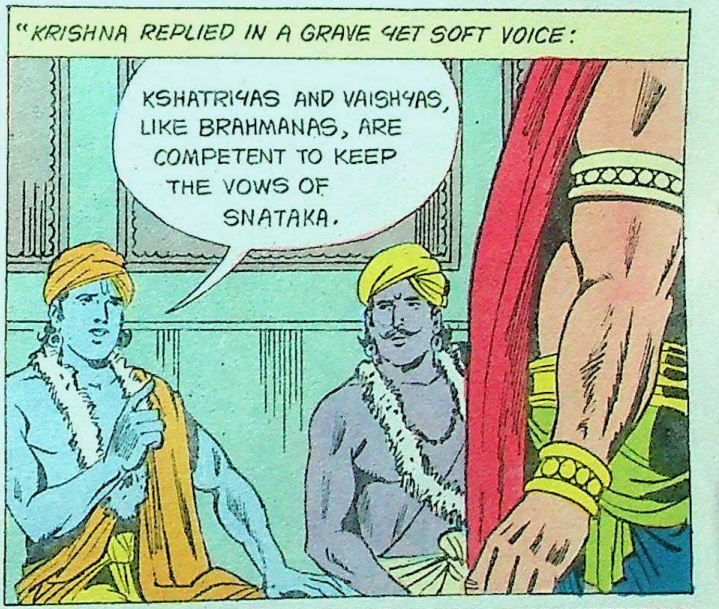

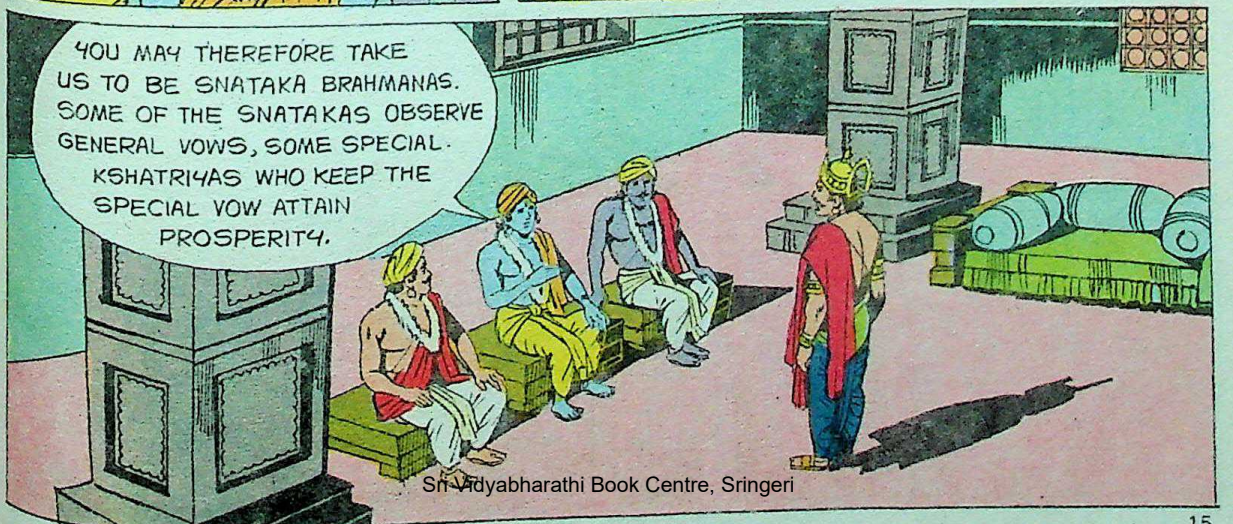

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JARASANDHA SAID:

YOUR ENTRY OVER THE RAZED CHAITYAKA HILL IS AN ACT OF RECKLESS TRESPASS. THEN YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELVES AS BRAHMANAS, THOUGH YOU BEAR THE MARKS OF KSHATRIYA VIGOUR.

WHY ARE YOU RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT THE WORSHIP OFFERED BY ME? WHY ARE YOU HERE?

"KRISHNA REPLIED:

BRAVE MEN ENTER THE ABODE OF AN ENEMY THROUGH AN IRREGULAR GATE AND THAT OF A FRIEND BY THE REGULAR GATE.

WE HAVE ENTERED THE ABODE OF OUR ENEMY WITH A PURPOSE. THEREFORE WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE WORSHIP.

"JARASANDHA SAID:

EVEN AFTER MUCH THOUGHT, I CANNOT RECALL ANY HARM DONE TO YOU BY ME.

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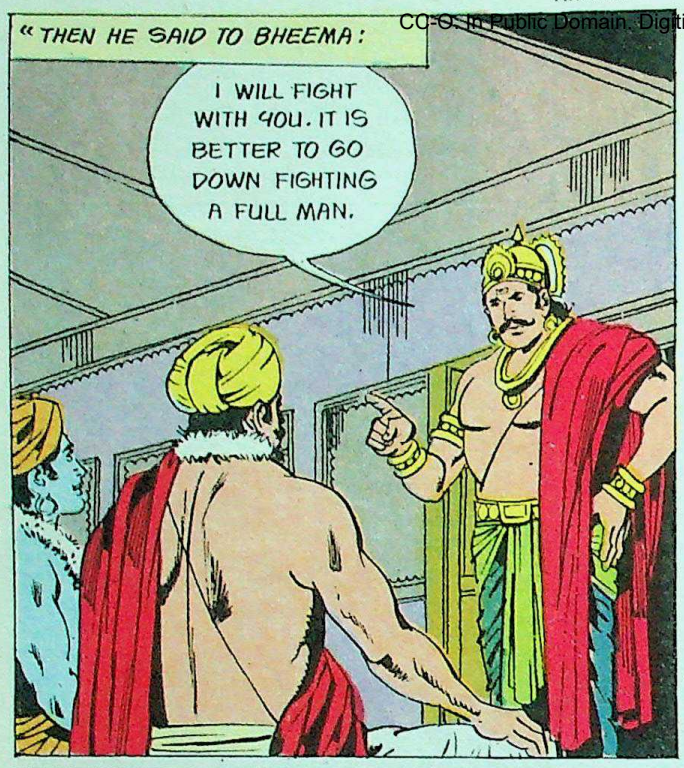

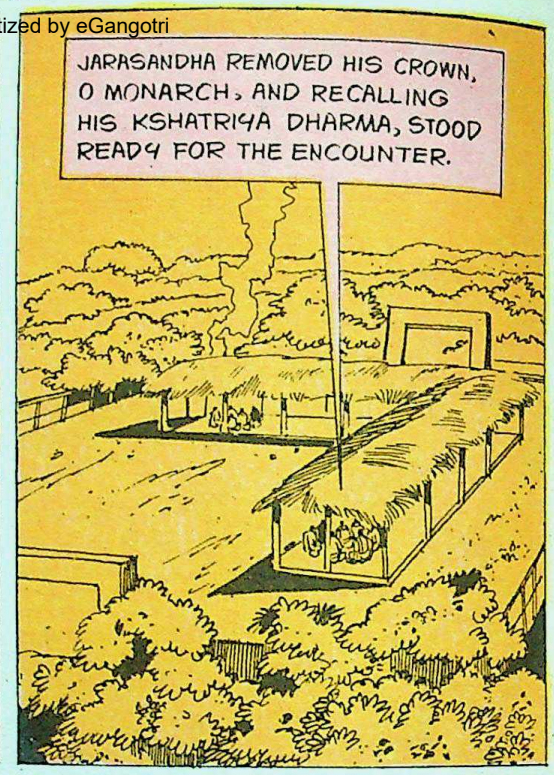

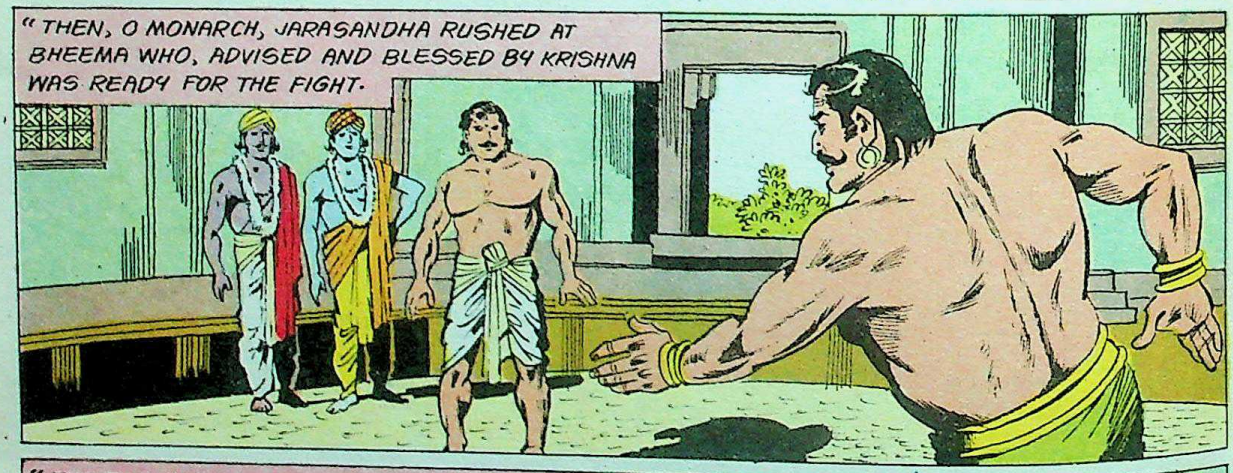

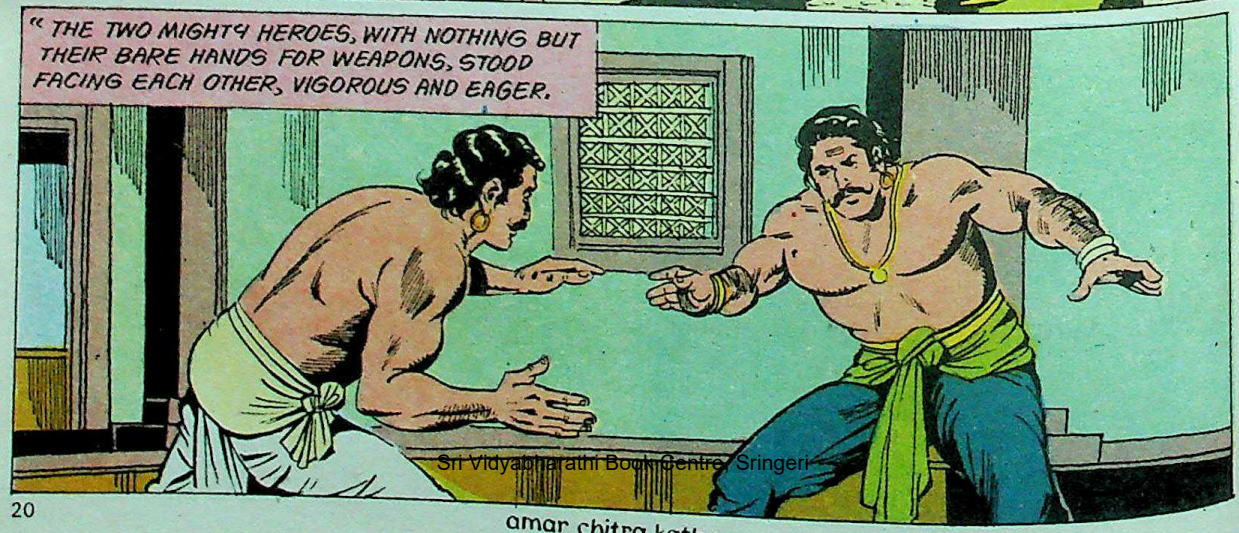

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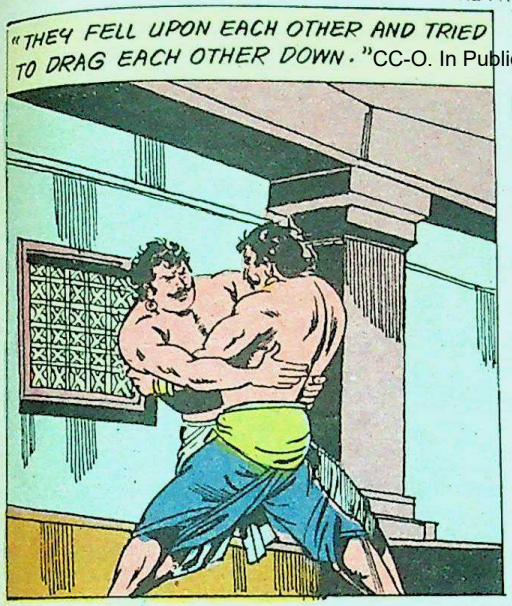

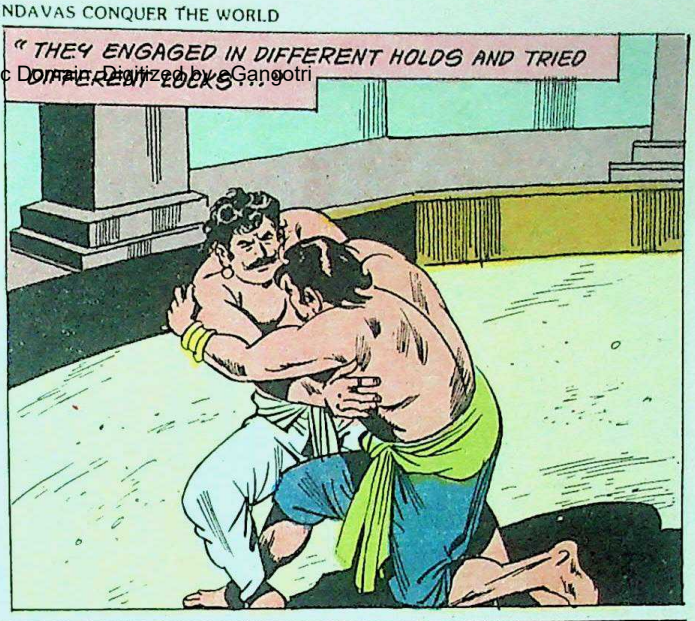

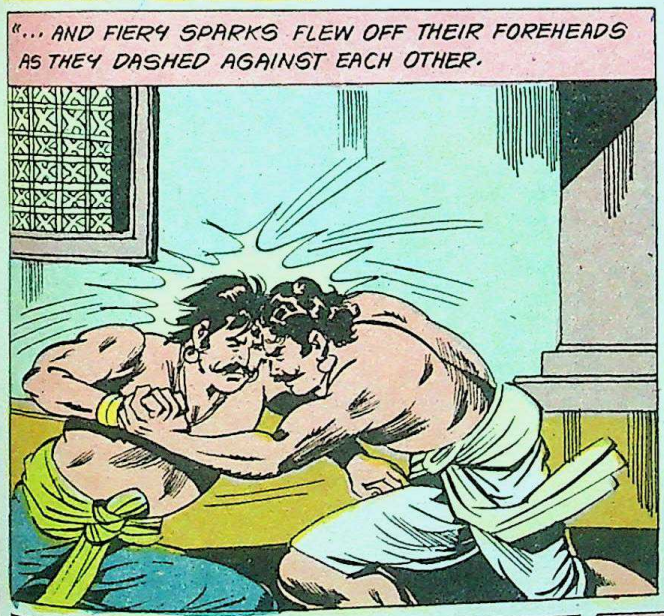

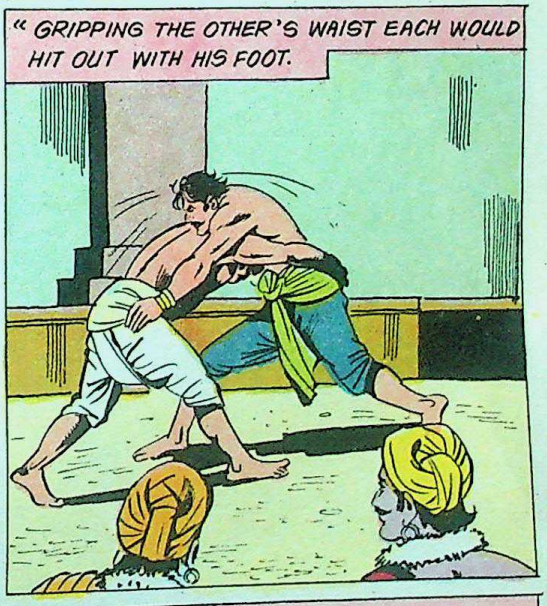

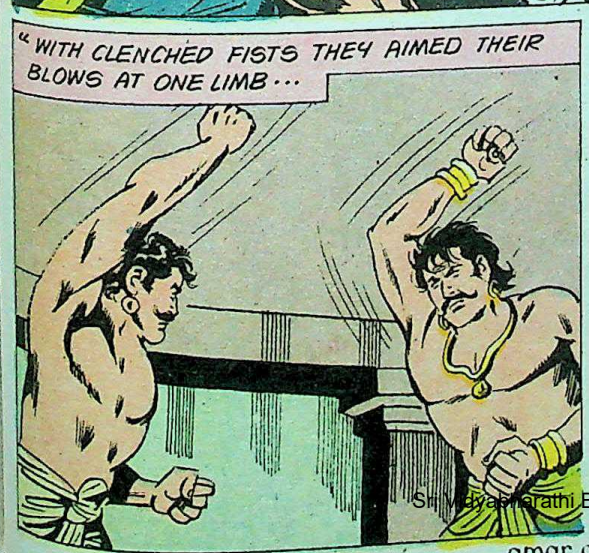

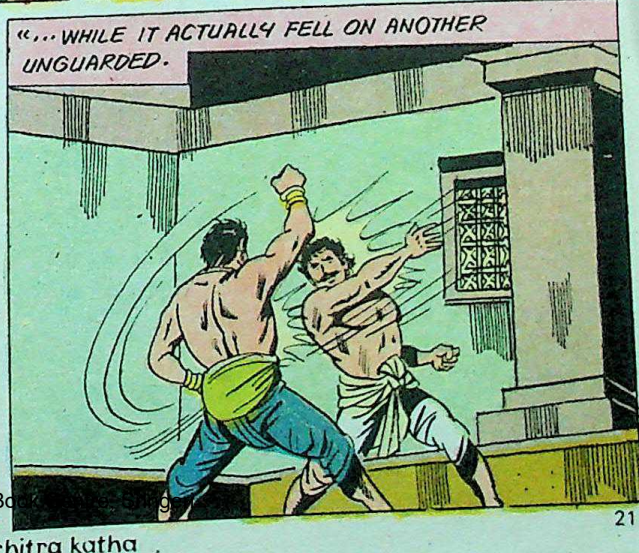

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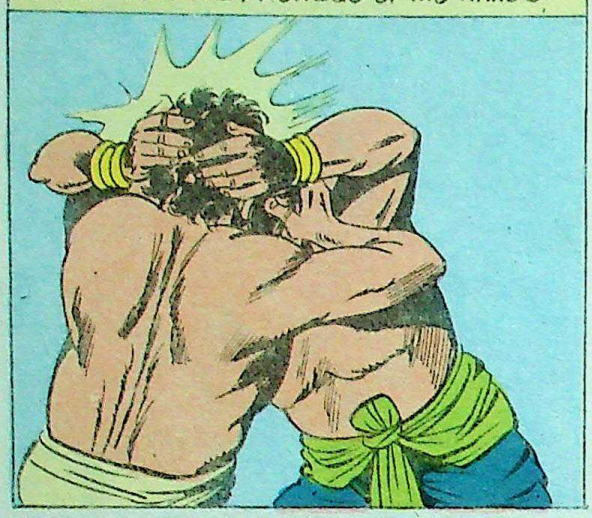
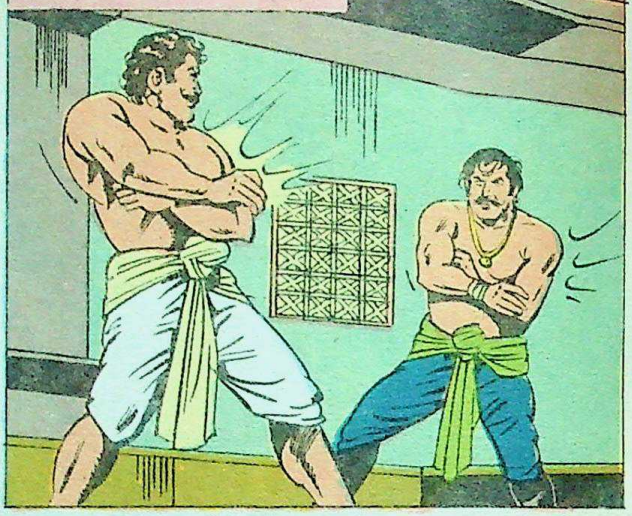
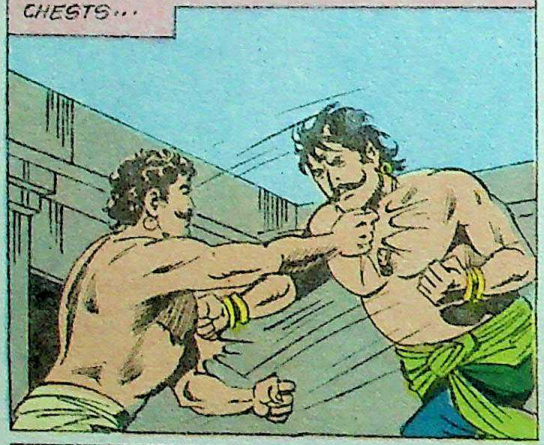
"EACH TRIED TO CRUSH THE SKULL OF THE OTHER WITH THE PROWESS OF HIS HANDS.



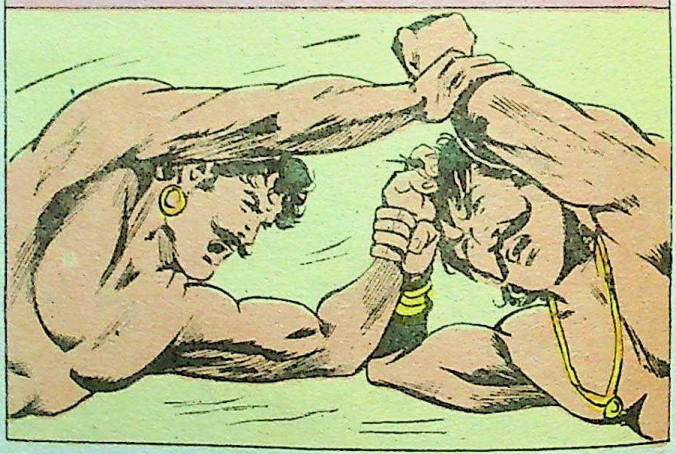
THE SOUNDS THE WRESTLERS MADE WHILE SLAPPING THEIR ARMS...



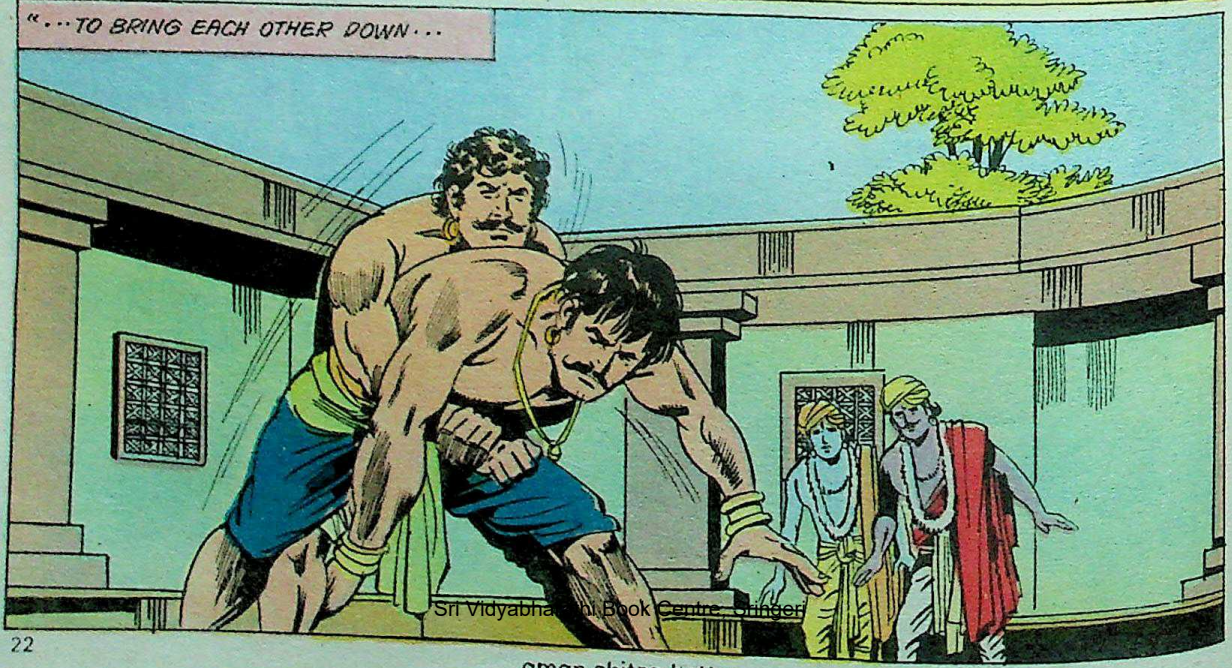
"...AND WHILE HITTING OUT AT EACH OTHER'S CHESTS...



"...AND WHILE DRAWING IN THEIR BREATHS...



"...TO BRING EACH OTHER DOWN...



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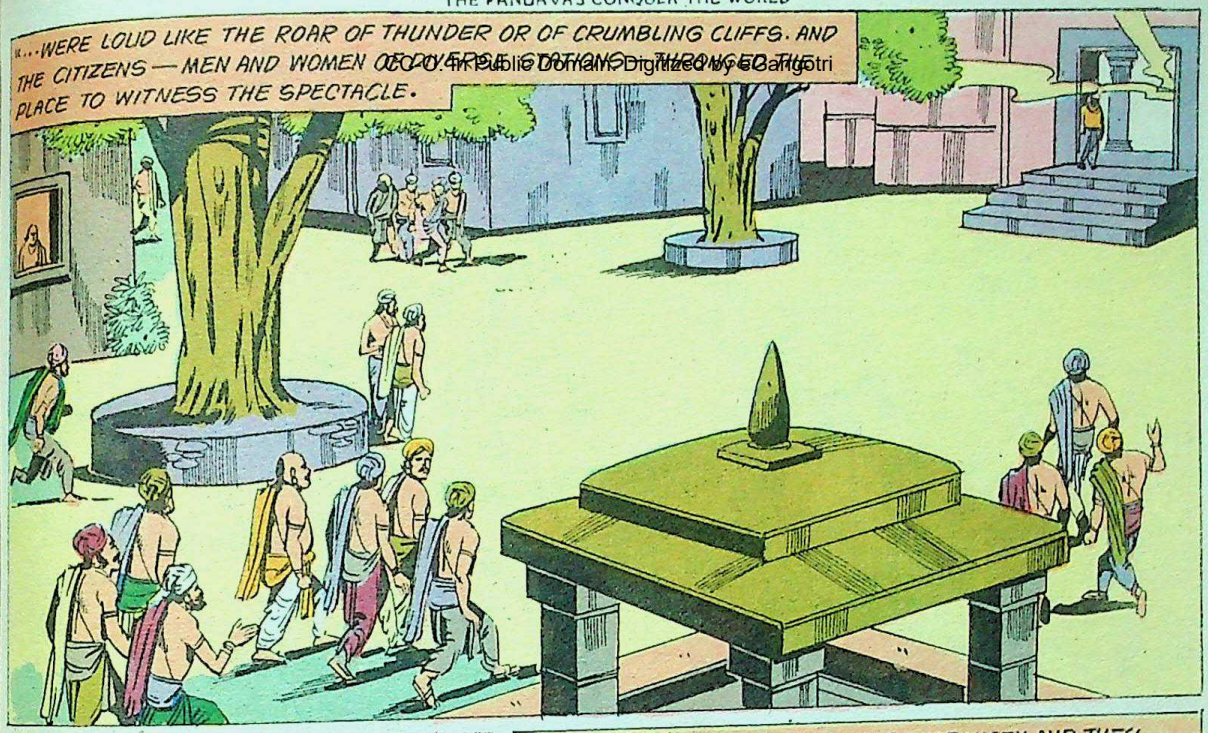

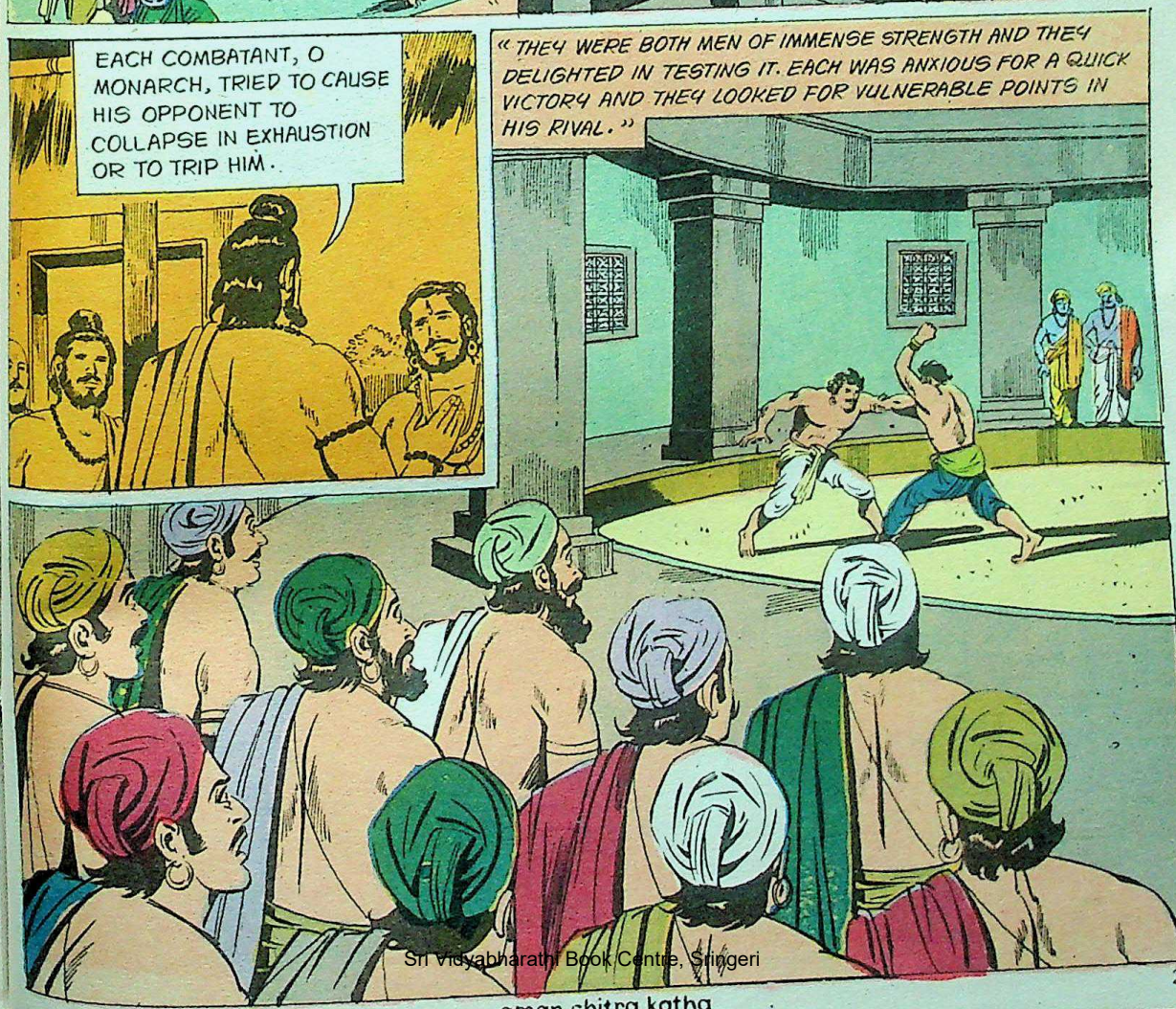

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IT WAS A TERRIBLE FIGHT, O MONARCH, THE COMBAT COMMENCED ON THE FIRST LUNAR DAY OF THE MONTH OF KARTIK AND CONTINUED TO THE THIRTEENTH. THEN ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY...

"... PERCEIVING JARASANDHA FALLING BEHIND IN FATIGUE, KRISHNA REMINDED BHEEMA SAYING:

AN EXHAUSTED FOE IS NOT TO BE PRESSED HARD. HE MIGHT EVEN LOSE HIS LIFE. THEREFORE DO NOT BE HARD ON HIM. FIGHT HIM IF YOU WILL, BUT MATCHING HIS REDUCED MIGHT.

"BHEEMA UNDERSTOOD THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR JARASANDHA'S DEATH AND SAID:

THIS WRETCH WHO DARED ME IS NOT TO BE SPARED.

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"KRISHNA, KEEN TO HASTEN THE DEATH OF JARASANDHA, REPLIED:

BRING FORTH AND DISPLAY BEFORE JARASANDHA THE AWESOME FORM OF YOURS WHICH YOU HAVE INHERITED FROM VAYU.

"THEREUPON BHEEMA LIFTED UP JARASANDHA...

"...AND HOLDING HIM ALOFT BEGAN WHIRLING HIM.

"AND HAVING WHIRLED HIM A HUNDRED TIMES HE THREW HIM DOWN.

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THEN PRESSING HIS KNEES AGAINST THE FALLEN FOE, BROKE HIS BACK AND TORE HIS BODY IN TWO.

THE TRIUMPHANT ROAR OF BHEEMA AND THE DYING SHRIEK OF JARASANDHA, O MONARCH, MINGLED INTO A TERRIBLE SOUND THAT STRUCK TERROR IN THE HEARTS OF ALL CITIZENS OF MAGADHA.

"THEN KRISHNA BROUGHT FORTH THE CHARIOT OF JARASANDHA AND, ASCENDING IT WITH BHEEMA AND ARJUNA, WENT···

"···AND SET FREE THE IMPRISONED KINGS.

"AND THEY SAID:

IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT OUR DELIVERANCE HAS BEEN AT YOUR HANDS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF BHEEMA AND ARJUNA.

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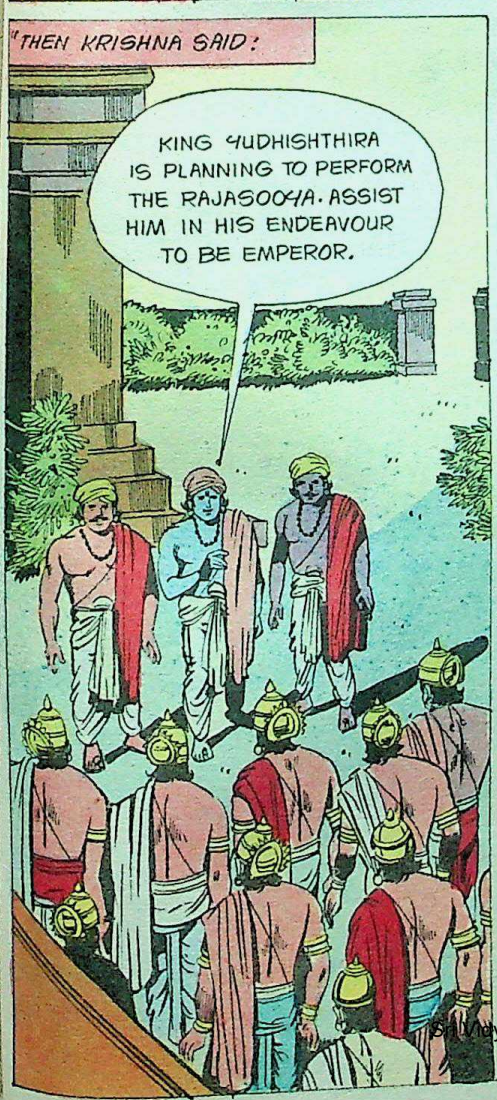

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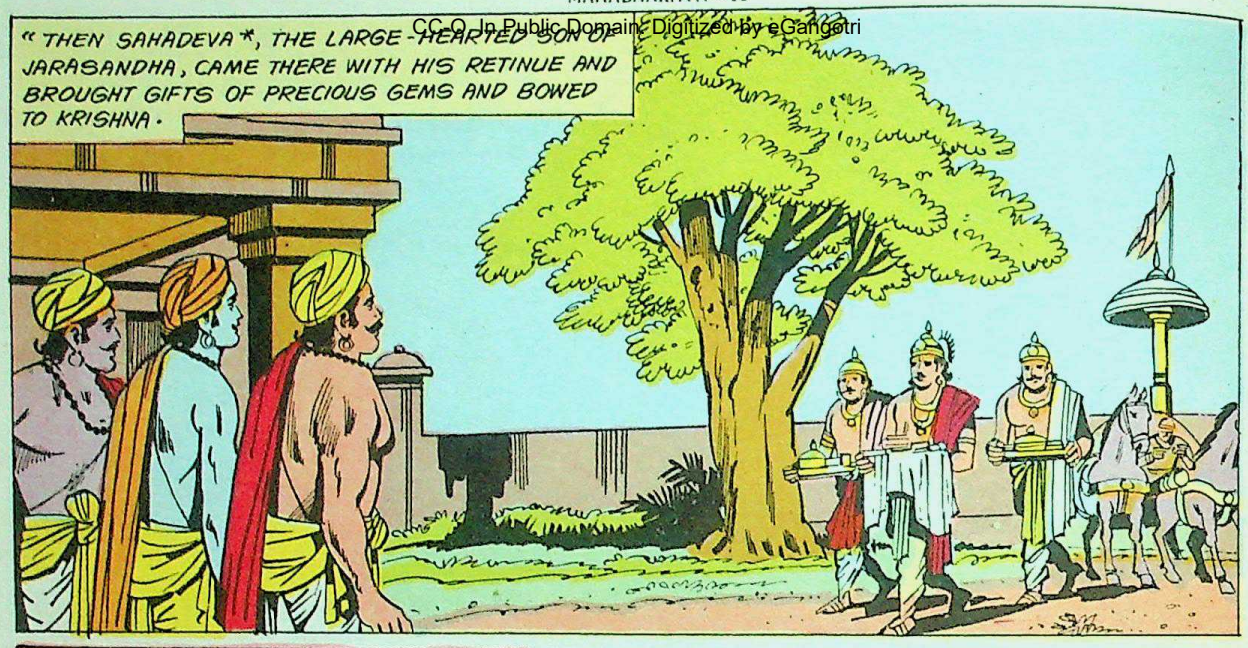

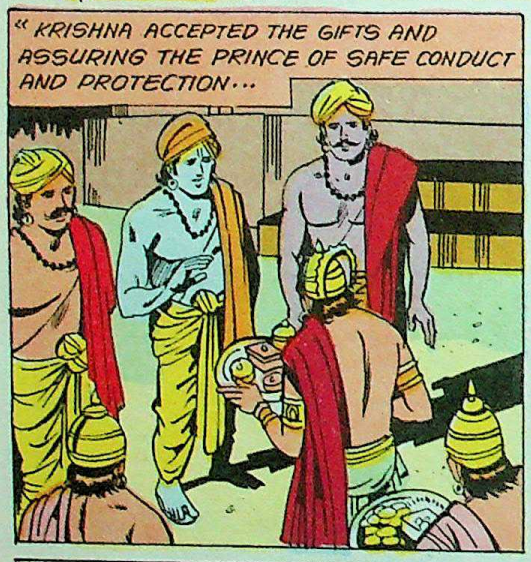

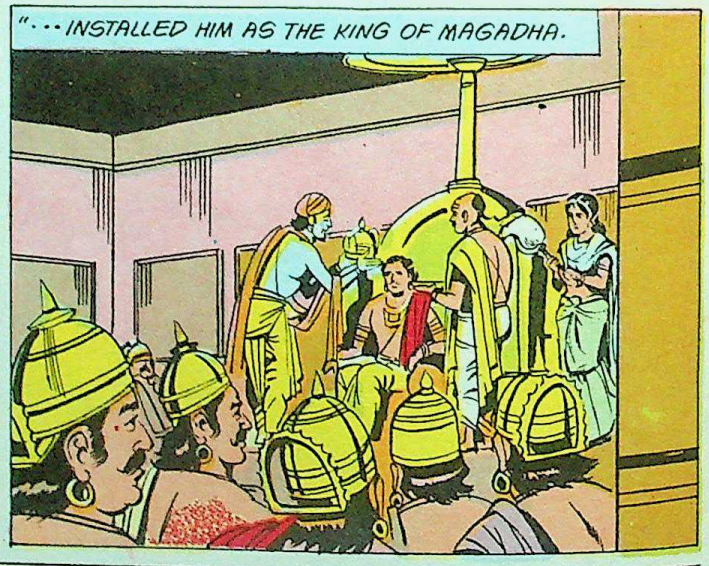

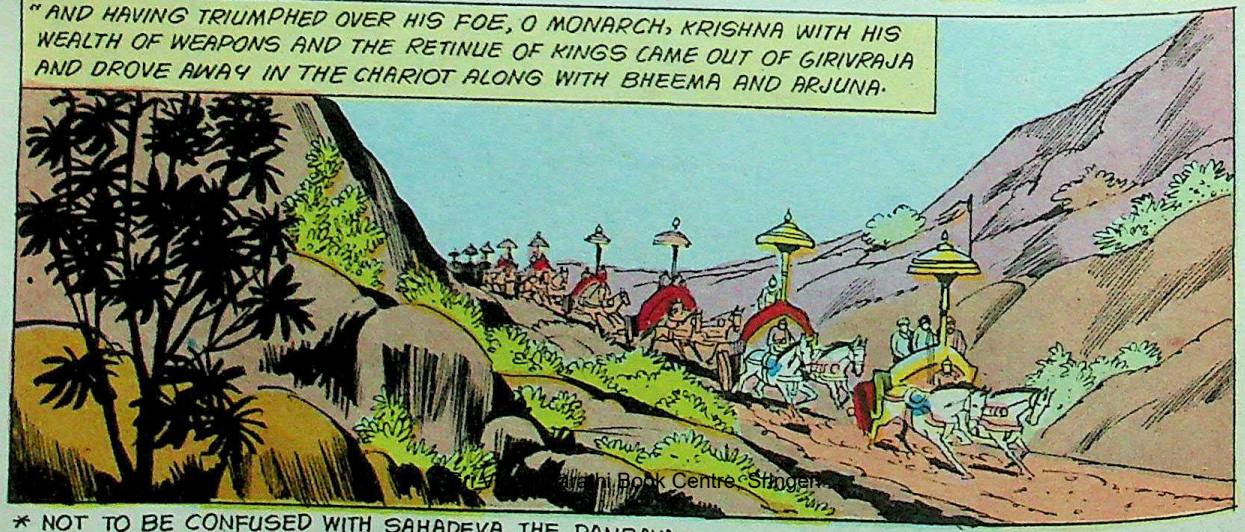

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* NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH SAHADEVA, THE PANDAVA.

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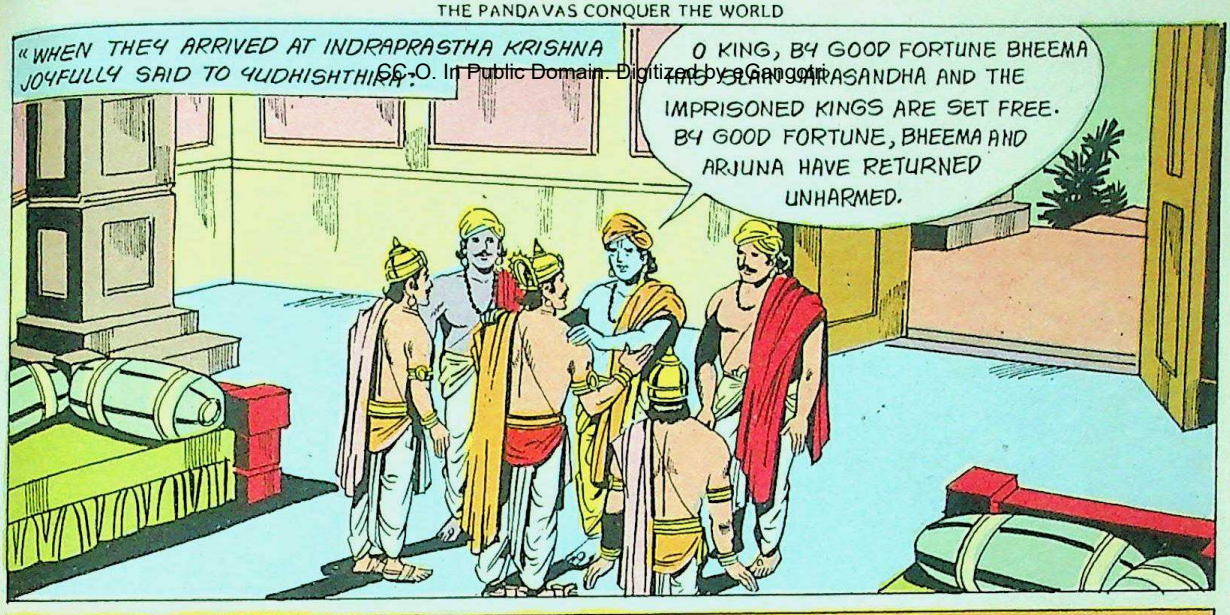

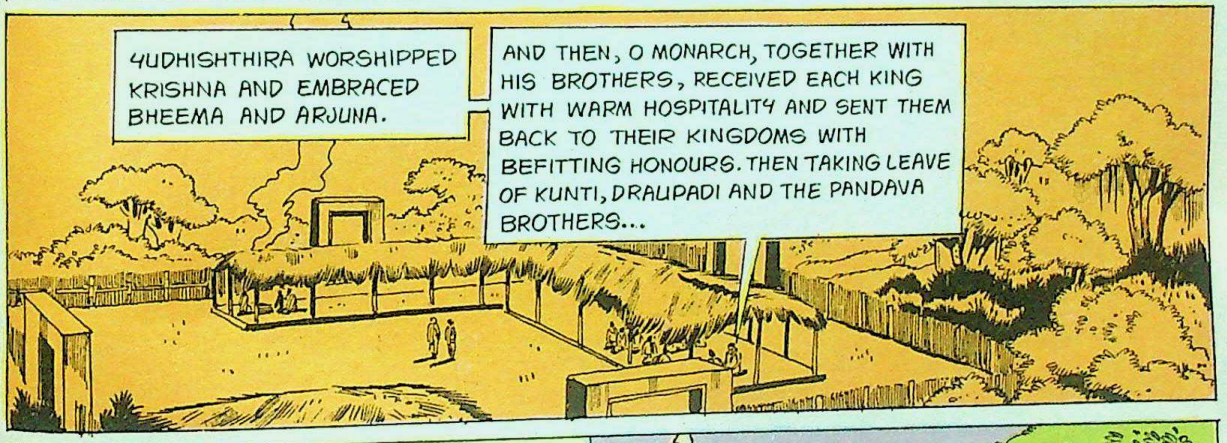

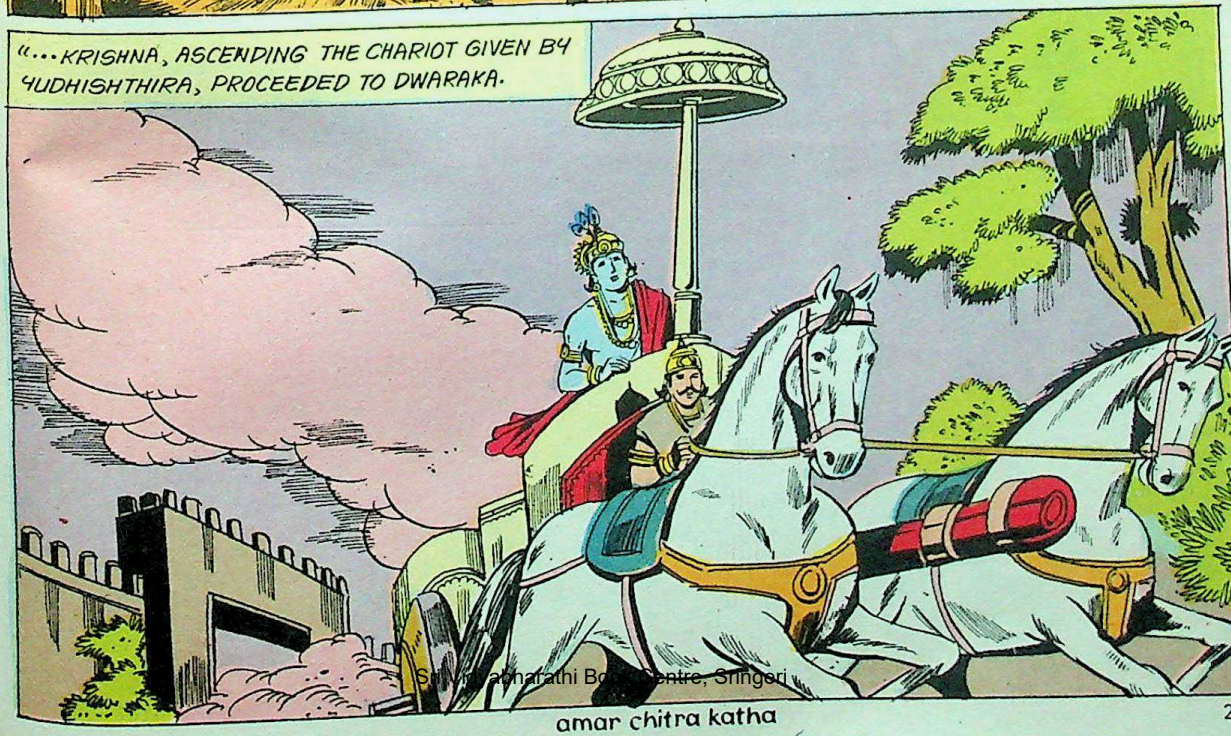

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"THEN ARJUNA, WHO HAD ACQUIRED THE AGNEYA GANDEEVA BOW, THE EVERFUL QUIVER, THE CHARIOT AND THE PALACE HALL SAID TO YUDHISHTHIRA:

I THINK THAT NOW OUR TREASURY NEEDS TO BE AUGMENTED. I WISH TO PROCEED NORTHWARDS TO EXTRACT TRIBUTES.

"YUDHISHTHIRA SAID:

GO FORTH AFTER DUE PROPITIATIONS. VICTORY WILL BE YOURS.

"ARJUNA THEN SET OUT IN HIS MIRACULOUS CHARIOT GIVEN BY AGNI. A VAST ARMY WENT WITH HIM.

SIMILARLY BHEEMA AND THE TWINS ALSO SET OUT ON THEIR MISSION OF CONQUEST.

AND, O MONARCH, ARJUNA SUBJUGATED THE NORTH, BHEEMA THE EAST, SAHADEVA THE SOUTH AND NAKULA THE WEST.

Mahabharathi Book Centre, Sringeri

"AND UNDER THE JUST RULE OF YUDHISHTHIRA, EVEN CHEATS AND THIEVES AND SHOOPAHIVES SPOKE NO LIES; AND TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE - WEALTH PROSPERED, POLITICAL STABILITY PREVAILED.

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Indraprastha •

*

"KINGS APPROACHED HIM EITHER WITH RESPECT OR IN FRIENDSHIP BUT NEVER IN DISCORD...

... AND HIS TREASURY WAS FILLED WITH SUCH BOUNTY AS TO LAST HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

AND YUDHISHTHIRA, AFTER ASSESSING THE MEANS AT HIS DISPOSAL, DECIDED TO PERFORM THE RAJASOOYA.

THUS ENDS THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF OUR RENDERING OF VAISHAMPAYANA'S RECITAL OF VYASA'S IMMORTAL ITIHASA THE MAHABHARATA.

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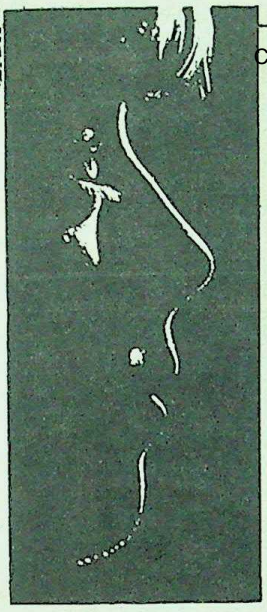

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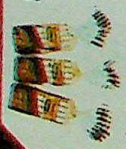

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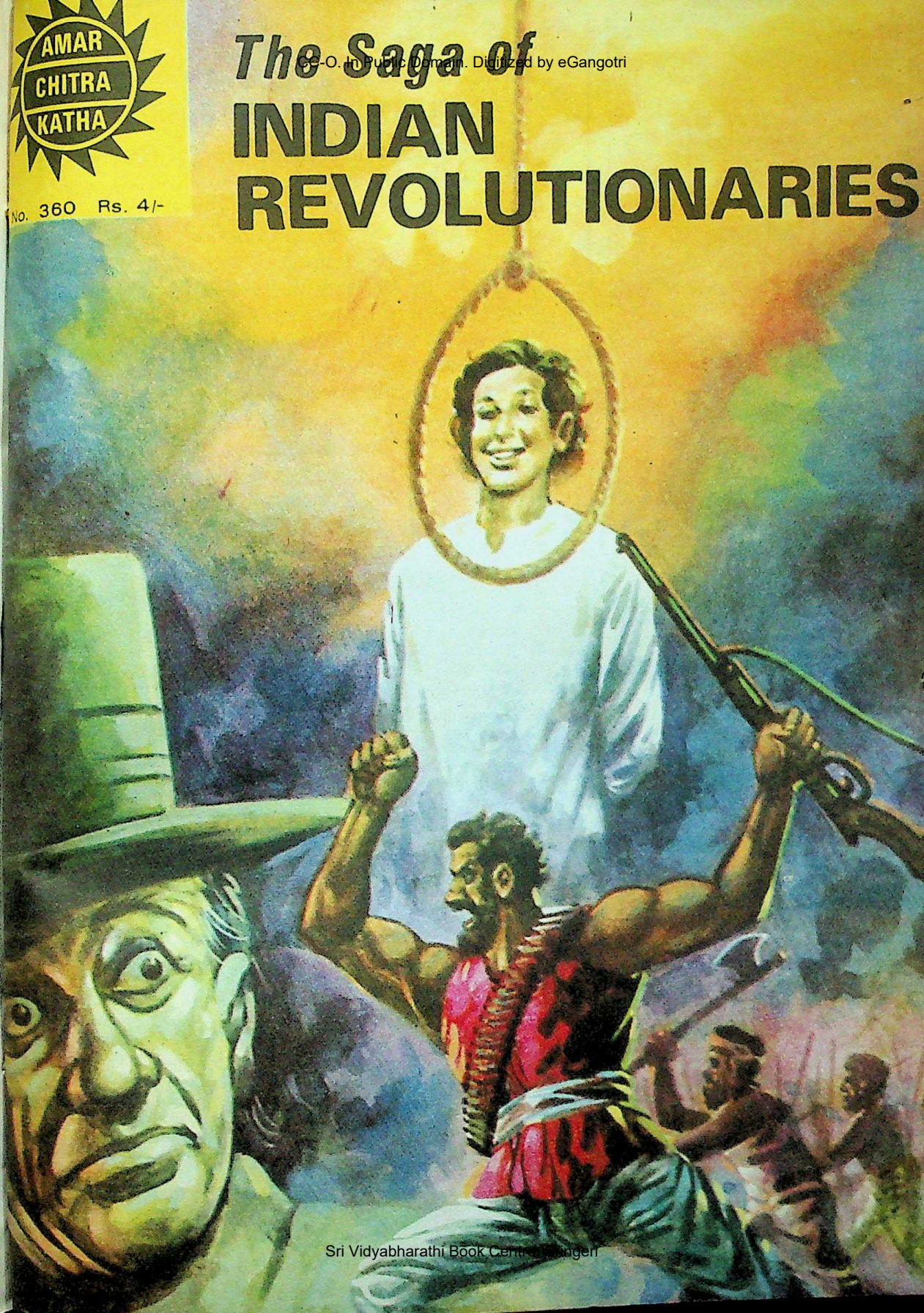

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Production
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Production Assistance
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Published by:
H. G. MIRCHANDANI
for IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd.,
Mahalaxmi Chambers,
22, Bhulabhai Desai Road,
Bombay 400 026 and printed by him
at IBH Printers, Marol Naka,
Mathuradas Vissanji Road,
Andheri (East), Bombay 400 059.

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The Saga of
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The Swadeshi Movement, aiming at the boycott of British goods in India, gradually gave way to more violent methods by which a section of the youth began to demand independence. They resorted to armed conflict, either singly or in groups or by allying with the enemies of Britain. There was a spurt of incidents when British officials were violently and deliberately murdered. In very many cases when these revolutionaries were put on trial and sometimes hanged, it was clear from their statements in court that the revolutionary fire burning within their hearts was eager to engulf the whole nation. The need for creating a revolutionary spirit in the country at large was strongly felt, as also to strike terror into the hearts of the British tyrants. It was this need which produced the Saga of Indian Revolutionaries.

We have referred among others to the following books in preparing this volume:

1. Ajeya (Kannada) — *Babu Krishnamurthy, 1974*
2. Lokmanya Tilak — *Dhananjay Keer, 1959*
3. The Roll of Honour — *Kali Charan Ghosh, 1965*
4. Savarkar and His Times — *Dhananjay Keer*
5. The Sedition Committee Report — *Government of India, 1918*
6. Story of Indian Revolution — *A.C. Guha, Ed., 1972*
7. Swadeshi Movement in Bengal 1903-1906 — *Sumit Sarkar, 1973*
8. Two Great Indian Revolutionaries — *Uma Mukherjee, 1966*
9. Vasudeo Balvant Phadke — *V.S. Joshi, 1959*

*

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Mahabharata – 17
YUDHISHTHIRA'S RAJASOOYA YAJNA

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The Saga of Indian Revolutionaries

OCTOBER 22, 1879, PUNE. VASUDEO BALWANT PHADKE, THE FIRST OF OUR REVOLUTIONARIES STOOD TRIAL IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT. HE WAS CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO WAGE WAR AGAINST THE QUEEN EMPRESS.
THE GOVERNMENT PROSECUTOR QUOTED FROM THE DIARY IN WHICH PHADKE HAD RECORDED HIS THOUGHTS.
THE INHABITANTS OF INDIA ARE STARVING TO DEATH UNDER BRITISH RULE...
...THESE DYING PEOPLE ARE LIKE THE CHILDREN BORN TO THE SAME MOTHERLAND TO WHICH I WAS BORN. THAT THEY SHOULD DIE OF STARVATION CRYING FOR FOOD... AND I SHOULD EARN MY PETTY LIVELIHOOD LIKE A DOG I CANNOT BEAR...
THINKING DAY AND NIGHT OF THIS AND A THOUSAND OTHER MISERIES... I USED TO WAKE UP IN THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT AND BROOD OVER THE OVERTHROW OF THE BRITISH RULE.
...UNTIL I WENT ALMOST MAD WITH THE IDEA.

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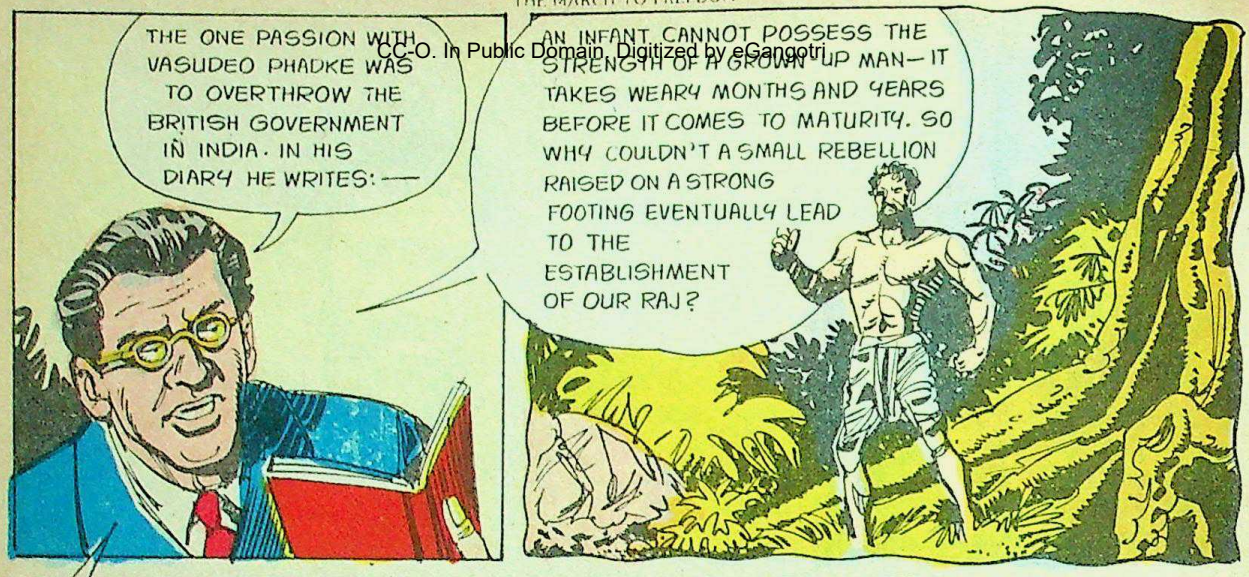

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"FORTUNATELY, YOUR HONOUR, PHADKE'S DREAM NEVER CAME TRUE. HE WAS OVERPOWERED AND CAPTURED BY MAJOR DANIELL."

VASUDEO BALWANT PHADKE STOOD LIKE A ROCK UNTIL THE JUDGEMENT WAS DELIVERED.

THE SENTENCE I PASS UPON YOU IS TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.

LATER WHEN HE WAS ALONE—

OH, MY COUNTRYMEN, YOU HAVE NOT DERIVED ANY BENEFIT FROM ME. I COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH MY TASK. PLEASE PARDON ME FOR MY FAILURES.

VASUDEO PHADKE WAS SENT TO JAIL IN ADEN, A BRITISH COLONY, IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

HE ESCAPED FROM THE JAIL ONLY TO BE CAPTURED AGAIN AND DETAINED TILL HIS DEATH ON FEBRUARY 17, 1883.

TODAY AT SHIRDHON, HIS BIRTHPLACE, STANDS A MEMORIAL PILLAR WITH A FLAME BLAZING ATOP.

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THE WORDS OF PHADKE MADE A DEEP IMPRESSION IN THE HEARTS OF PATRIOTS, PARTICULARLY IN MAHARASHTRA. ON JUNE 12, 1897, AT THE SHIVAJI FESTIVAL BEING CELEBRATED IN PUNE —

MERELY RECITING SHIVAJI'S STORY LIKE A PARROT WILL NOT BRING INDEPENDENCE... YOU MUST TAKE UP THE SWORD AND FIGHT...

THE SPEAKER WAS DAMODAR HARI CHAPEKAR.

DAMODAR CHAPEKAR WAS A WITNESS TO THE HUMILIATIONS HIS COUNTRYMEN WERE SUBJECTED TO BY RAND, WHO HAD BEEN DESIGNATED AS THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

ALL THOSE SUSPECTED OF PLAGUE ARE TO BE SENT TO THE SEGREGATION CAMP. EXAMINE THEM CAREFULLY. STRIP THESE MEN AND WOMEN.

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE DRAGGED OUT OF THEIR HOMES AND DRIVEN TO THE SEGREGATION CAMP.

MY COUNTRYMEN ARE INNOCENT AND FRIGHTENED. RAND PUSHES THEM AROUND AS IF THEY WERE A HERD OF CATTLE. HE MUST NOT GO UNPUNISHED.

DAMODAR AND A BAND OF YOUNG MEN INCLUDING HIS TWO BROTHERS PRACTISED TARGET SHOOTING.

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THE DAY CHAPEKAR CHOSE TO STRIKE WAS JUNE 22, 1897. ON THIS DAY THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S REIGN WAS TO BE CELEBRATED IN PUNE.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN*

RAND DROVE OUT OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN HIS CARRIAGE.

AS THE CARRIAGE APPROACHED THE HIDEOUT OF THE CHAPEKAR BROTHERS, BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR CALLED OUT —

GOVINDA AALA RE... GOVINDA AALA RE...

DAMODAR RAN AFTER THE CARRIAGE...

...CLIMBED ON TO THE BACK OF IT AND...

...FIRED AT RAND...

...AND THEN DISAPPEARED IN THE DARK.

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* THE BRITISH NATIONAL ANTHEM.

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A FEW MONTHS LATER, DAMODAR AND BALKRISHNA WERE ARRESTED. SUBSEQUENTLY VASUDEO, THE THIRD BROTHER AND HIS ASSOCIATE RANADE* WERE ALSO TAKEN PRISONERS.

* VASUDEO AND RANADE HAD KILLED THE DRAVID BROTHERS WHO HAD HELPED THE POLICE ARREST BALKRISHNA.

HOLDING A COPY OF THE BHAGAVADGITA, DAMODAR CHAPEKAR MOUNTED THE SCAFFOLD ON APRIL 18, 1898.

IN MAY, 1899, VASUDEO CHAPEKAR WAS LED OUT OF HIS CELL. AS HE PASSED BY THE CELL IN WHICH BALKRISHNA WAS HELD —

GOODBYE, BROTHER — I AM GOING.

GO VASU. I'LL FOLLOW YOU.

MAY 8. VASUDEO CHAPEKAR WAS HANGED.
MAY 10. RANADE WAS HANGED.
MAY 12. BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR WAS HANGED.

LATER SISTER NIVEDITA VISITED PUNE TO PAY HER REGARDS TO THE MOTHER OF THE CHAPEKARS. THE OLD LADY WHO HAD GIVEN AWAY THREE SONS TO THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM REMAINED CALM AND UNCOMPLAINING.

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IN 1905, THE BRITISH PARTITIONED BENGAL ON COMMUNAL BASIS AND USED FORCE TO PUT DOWN THE POPULAR PROTEST. WHAT BEGAN AS AN AGITATION FOR A UNITED BENGAL TURNED INTO THE LARGER STRUGGLE FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE COUNTRY. AUROBINDO GHOSH SAID —

TYRANTS HAVE TRIED BUT HAVE THEY EVER SUCCEEDED IN REPRESSING THE NATURAL LOVE OF FREEDOM IN MAN?

REPRESSED, IT HAS GROWN IN STRENGTH; CRUSHED UNDER THE HEEL OF A TYRANT...

...IT HAS ASSUMED A MYRIAD FORMS...

...AND IN SUCCESSIVE INCARNATIONS GAINED IN STRENGTH AND INSPIRATION FROM REPEATED FAILURES AND ENDLESS SUFFERINGS...

...IT HAS RISEN FINALLY, TO OVERTHROW ITS OPPRESSOR FOR GOOD...

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PRAFULLA CHAKI, A MEMBER OF THE BOMB SQUAD KILLED HIMSELF, WHEN HIS ARREST SEEMED IMMINENT...

...AND KHUDIRAM BOSE, THE OTHER REVOLUTIONARY, STOOD TRIAL.

I AM SORRY TWO INNOCENT LADIES WERE KILLED. MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT KINGSFORD IS STILL ALIVE.

KHUDIRAM WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH.

I HAVE READ THE GITA. I DO NOT FEAR DEATH.

KHUDIRAM'S MARTYRDOM WAS LIKE THE EXPLOSION OF A BOMB. IT AWAKENED HIS COUNTRYMEN FROM THEIR SLUMBER.

BANDE MATARAM

HE MOUNTED THE SCAFFOLD WITH HIS HEAD HELD HIGH. HE WAS CHEERFUL AND SMILING IN THE FACE OF DEATH.

BAL GANGADHAR TILAK DECLARED —

...THE BOMB HAS NOT THE POWER OF CRIPPLING THE POWER OF AN ARMY BUT OWING TO THE BOMB THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT IS ATTRACTED TOWARDS THE DISORDER WHICH PREVAILS... IF THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PROFIT BY THE BOMB, IT WILL PROVE TO BE ITS OWN ENEMY.

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THE POLICE ROUNDED UP A NUMBER OF REVOLUTIONARIES. TWO WERE AWARDED TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE AND OTHERS VARIOUS TERMS OF IMPRISONMENT. THE REVOLUTIONARIES BOARDED THE BUS WITH A SONG ON THEIR LIPS.

I LEAVE BEHIND ALL MY HOPES // ALL MY THIRST FOR ACTIONS UNAPPEASED // SUPPRESSING THIS AGONY WITHIN MY HEART, // AS I GO TO LIVE IN JAIL.

... AND THEY SANG ALL THE WAY TO THE ...

WHETHER IN JAIL OR IN EXILE // WHEREVER I BE, I DRAW // THE IMAGE OF BHARAT WITHIN MY HEART // AND WORSHIP THIS IDOL DIVINE.

... PRISON ...

THE DAME FATE HERSELF // MAY COME TO RESIST MY EFFORT // FEARLESSLY I WOULD TELL HER, // YOU ARE NOT WELCOME HERE.

SOON THE SONG WAS ON THE LIPS OF EVERY FREEDOM-LOVING MAN IN THE COUNTRY.

THE FLAME OF QUEST FOR FREEDOM // IS THE ONLY FLAME THAT IS BURNING // OFFER YOURSELF IN IT // TO MAKE IT STILL BRIGHTER. NOTHING CAN PUT OFF THIS FIRE // UNLESS WE HAVE DEATH OR OUR FREEDOM // KNOW THAT NOTHING ELSE // MATTERS IN OUR LIVES NOW.

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MEANWHILE VINAYAK DAMODAR SAVARKAR AND HIS TEAM OF REVOLUTIONARIES WERE OPERATING FROM INDIA HOUSE IN LONDON.

WE HAVE SENT BOMB MANUALS TO INDIA. OUR FRIENDS NEED MORE GUNS.

IN 1907 AT THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONGRESS, SAVARKAR'S ASSOCIATE MADAM CAMA UNFURLED THE INDIAN FLAG.

THIS FLAG, THE FLAG OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE, IS SANCTIFIED BY THE BLOOD OF MARTYRED INDIAN YOUTHS. I CALL UPON YOU, GENTLEMEN, TO RISE AND SALUTE IT.

THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY STOOD UP AS ONE MAN.

SAVARKAR WROTE THE HISTORY OF THE REVOLT OF 1857.

THAT WAS NO MUTINY. IT WAS THE FIRST WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

HE REMAINED UNDAUNTED WHEN IN HIS HOME-COUNTRY HIS ELDER BROTHER GANESH SAVARKAR WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE. HOWEVER, HIS ASSOCIATE MADANLAL DHINGRA WAS FURIOUS..

VIOLENCE SHALL BE MET WITH VIOLENCE. THE OPPRESSION OF MY COUNTRYMEN WILL NOT GO UNAVENGED.

MADANLAL DHINGRA SHOT SIR CURZON WYLLIE, THE ADVISER TO THE GOVERNMENT ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DHINGRA DEFENDED HIS ACT.

I SHED ENGLISH BLOOD ON ENGLISH SOIL INTENTIONALLY AND ON PURPOSE AS A PROTEST AGAINST THE INHUMAN TRANSPORTATION AND HANGING OF INDIAN YOUTH.

LATER, IN A STATEMENT HE EXPLAINED.

I BELIEVE THAT A NATION HELD DOWN BY A FOREIGN BAYONET IS IN A PERPETUAL STATE OF WAR. SINCE OPEN BATTLE IS RENDERED IMPOSSIBLE TO A DISARMED PEOPLE... THE ONLY LESSON REQUIRED IN INDIA AT PRESENT IS TO LEARN HOW TO DIE AND THE ONLY WAY TO TEACH IT IS BY DYING OURSELVES...

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre, Sringeri

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MEANWHILE IN INDIA, JACKSON, THE BRITISH COLLECTOR OF NASIK, WHO HAD TAKEN GANESH SAVARKAR INTO CUSTODY, WAS SHOT DEAD.

BANG

VINAYAK SAVARKAR HIMSELF WAS ARRESTED ON MARCH 10, 1910, AT VICTORIA STATION IN LONDON...

SAVARKAR MADE A DARING ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE WHILE BEING BROUGHT TO INDIA.

HOWEVER, HE WAS CAPTURED AND PRODUCED BEFORE A SPECIAL TRIBUNAL IN BOMBAY IN 1910*.

WE FIND THE ACCUSED GUILTY OF ABETMENT OF WAGING WAR BY INSTIGATION, BY THE CIRCULATION OF PRINTED MATTER INCITING WAR, PROVIDING OF ARMS; AND DISTRIBUTION OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF EXPLOSIVES.

SAVARKAR WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.

I AM PREPARED TO PAY UNGRUDGINGLY THE EXTREME PENALTY OF YOUR LAWS IN THE BELIEF THAT IT IS THROUGH SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE ALONE THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHERLAND CAN MARCH ON TO AN ASSURED, IF NOT SPEEDY, TRIUMPH.

LATER HE WAS GIVEN AN IRON PLATE TO WEAR.

121, 121A
109, 302
50 YEARS
24·12·1910
D
23·12·1960

WILL THE BRITISH RULE LAST FOR ANOTHER FIFTY YEARS?

THESE TURNED OUT TO BE THE MOST PROPHETIC WORDS EVER SPOKEN BY A FREEDOM FIGHTER.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Centre, Sringeri

*PLEASE SEE AMAR CHITRA KATHA TITLE NO. 309 ON SAVARKAR

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WITH THE DEPARTURE OF SAVARKAR, LONDON CEASED TO BE AN IMPORTANT CENTRE FOR REVOLUTIONARIES ABROAD. IT YIELDED PLACE TO SAN FRANCISCO FROM WHERE LALA HARDAYAL LAUNCHED THE GHADAR* PARTY. IN 1913, HE LAUNCHED ITS PUBLICATION "GHADAR."

WHAT IS OUR NAME? GHADAR. WHAT IS OUR WORK? GHADAR. WHERE WILL GHADAR BREAK OUT? IN INDIA. WHEN? IN A FEW YEARS.

WHY GHADAR? BECAUSE THE PEOPLE CAN NO LONGER BEAR THE OPPRESSION AND TYRANNY PRACTISED UNDER THE ENGLISH RULE AND ARE READY TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR FREEDOM.

LALA HARDAYAL AND HIS FRIENDS CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF INDIA'S FREEDOM IN AMERICA. THEY COLLECTED MONEY, BOUGHT AND SENT HOME ARMS AND AMMUNITION. THEY TRAINED BATCHES OF SIKHS IN WIELDING FIRE ARMS.

AROUND THIS TIME A GROUP OF OVER 350 SIKHS CHARTERED THE SHIP KOMAGATAMARU TO SAIL FOR CANADA AND SETTLE IN THAT COUNTRY.

THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES REFUSED SIKH PASSENGERS ENTRY AND THE SHIP SAILED BACK TO INDIA.

WHEN THE PASSENGERS CAME TO CALCUTTA THEY WERE SUBJECTED TO MUCH HARASSMENT. WITHOUT ANY PROVOCATION THE POLICE OPENED FIRE ON THEM.

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*GHADAR MEANS REBELLION

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THE INDISCRIMINATE KILLING OF THE INNOCENT SIKHS OF KOMAGATAMARU HAD ITS REPERCUSSIONS IN AMERICA.

WE ARE NOW READY TO RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY, TO SHOOT AND KILL OUR OPPRESSORS.

IN INDIA THE STAGE WAS SET FOR AN ARMED RISING UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF RASH BEHARI BOSE IN LAHORE.

THE TIME IS CERTAINLY RIPE FOR AN ARMED UPRISING AS BRITAIN IS BUSY WITH THE WAR IN EUROPE.

RASH BEHARI AND HIS COMRADES PLANNED A MASS UPRISING IN THE NORTH-EAST ON FEBRUARY 21, 1915.

TWENTY-SIX CANTONMENTS ARE PREPARING TO REVOLT.

THE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CAPTURE THEIR ENGLISH OFFICERS TO LOOT THE TREASURIES. THE GHADAR MEN WILL LAUNCH A SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK.

IN CALCUTTA, JATIN MUKHERJI,* THE LEADER OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES, HAD SET UP A COMPANY TO CAMOUFLAGE ACTIVITIES.

YOU ARE NO LONGER WORKING FOR THE GOVERNMENT, I HEARD.

I'M NOT. I'M GOING INTO BUSINESS. THAT'S MY FIRM DECISION. BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

HE WAS IN CONTACT WITH RASH BEHARI BOSE, THEN ACTIVE IN PUNJAB.

HOW IS THE BUILDING WORK GOING ON IN THE PUNJAB?

OUR PEOPLE ARE ASKING FOR MORE MATERIAL.

* BAGHA JATIN

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CONTD. ON PAGE 19

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WHAT DOES THE DAWN OF THE 21st CENTURY HOLD FOR THE TEENAGERS OF TODAY?

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THE MAGAZINE

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From IBH Publishers Pvt. Ltd., who publish the well read and widely circulated AMAR CHITRA KATHA and TINKLE, by arrangement with Partha Institute of Personality Development, comes a stimulating new venture to help guide the destiny of the teenagers of today for a better tomorrow for this nation.

The raison d'etre of PARTHA is the belief that the keen competition in the modern education system and the emphasis on possessing more rather than being more, in our social system breed a deep sense of insecurity in the minds of our teenagers. In this swamp of insecurity breeds violence on the one hand and drink and drug addiction on the other.

PARTHA is a blend of science, adventure, career guidance, personality development, quizzes and fun. But the emphasis is not on what to learn, but how to learn; not on what to do, but how to do, oneself! Almost every feature provides opportunities for participation and self-development; for earning while learning. Out of all this will develop self-esteem, and from it will grow the ability to love and to help others.

THE MAN

PARTHA is something more than a magazine. It is a movement. Spearheading this movement is UNCLE PAI, with whose name youngsters are already familiar through AMAR CHITRA KATHA and TINKLE, edited by him, and through Partha Institute of Personality Development, of which he is the director.

TEENAGERS!

If you are between the ages of 14 to 20, feel like a babe in the woods on one day and all grown up the next day, if you sometimes get the "Stop the world and let me off" feeling, if you want someone to share your hopes and aspirations, dreams and despair, if you want to be ready to take life as it comes, but on your terms, PARTHA IS THE MAGAZINE FOR YOU.

INDUSTRIALISTS! MANAGERS!

21st century is where your children and their children will be spending their time. Wouldn't you like to make it a safer place for them to live in?

Wouldn't you like to participate in harnessing the talent of our younger generation for the promotion of your products?

Don't you believe that nation building means not only dams, huge concrete structures and giant factories but also men with broad vision and wise minds?

Then do write to PARTHA for more information about how you can contribute to this venture.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS!

When you see your children (or students) rushing from schools and colleges to tuition classes and then to their study tables to burn the midnight oil, to be able to reach the ever-escalating magic percentages, do you feel that they are missing out on something? Do you get the feeling that the hectic pace of modern school and college life does not leave them any time to pause and to think? Do you feel that knowledge has come, but wisdom lingered behind?

Then PARTHA is the magazine you should place in their hands. It will help them to accept, to improve and to rely on themselves. More, it will help them to learn to love.

SPECIAL OFFER

Each annual subscription will entitle you to receive a free copy of the book "The Partha Way to Success".

With a 3-year subscription or 3 annual subscriptions, you will get a gift of an audio cassette of "The Partha way to Success".

Price: Rs.4/- per issue

Annual Subscription: Rs.48/-

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS WILL INCLUDE, AMONG OTHERS,

Prof. N.H. Atthreya, Dr. R.H. Dastur, M.V. Kamath R.G.K. and Sharu Rangnekar.

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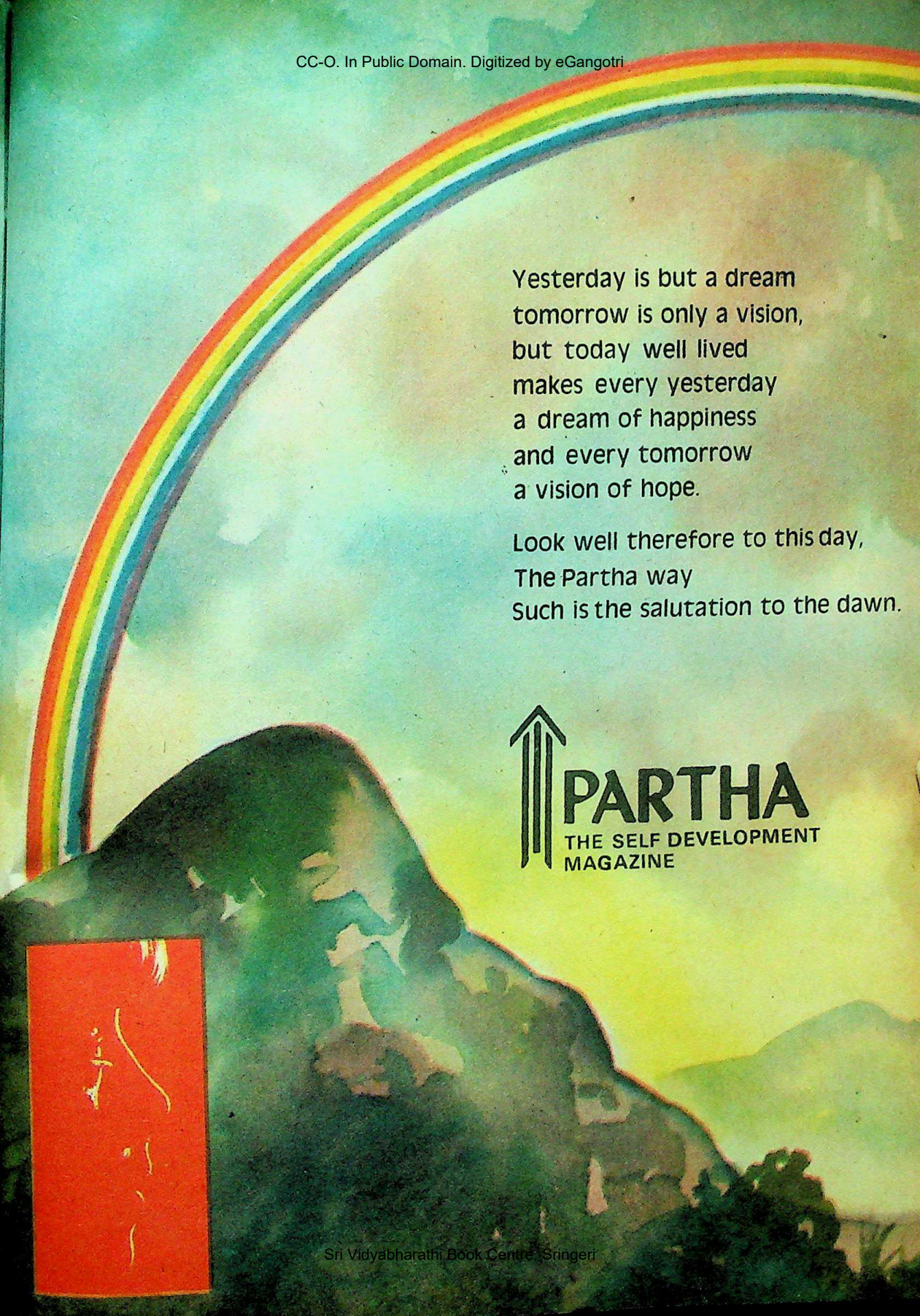

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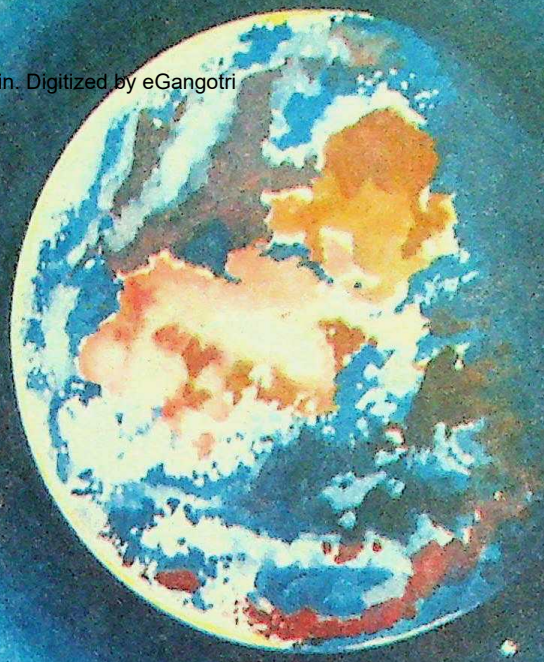

IF YOU ARE FOURTEEN AND OVER THE WORLD AND PARTHA AWAIT YOU.

HERE ARE SOME COMMENTS FROM PARTHA READERS:

"I had been following the Partha, along with my son.... Not only my son, I also experienced a new outlook towards life and education"
—K. Krishnaiah, Teacher, Inkollu, Dist Prakasam, A.P.

"In all the competitions, held in Bangalore (debates, quizzes etc.) which I attend, I usually see at least one PARTHA! Although I may not speak to him or her, I feel happy on seeing fellow Parthas shining in all these competitions. It is really great to see the Parthas on the move!"
— Bharat Shyam, B 3, RBI Officers' Quarters, Prabhadevi, Bombay 400 025.

"I was also fortunate enough to pass the National Talent Search Examinations and was invited to face the interview where I was reunited with some Partha students, who were also awarded credit."
—Milind G. Weling, 1/36 Dattatraya Building, Tukaram Javji Road, Grant Road, Bomay 400 007

"I wish to express my thanks, joy and pride to you for having guided me through the Partha .... It has been of very much help to me in creating self-confidence, in helping me to think of my future, etc. It has helped me to stand on my own feet."
—Rani Joseph, 1789A, II stage, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore 10

"In my favourite subjects like Science and Maths, I scored 90% and 94% respectively. This corroborates what you had said in the Partha that we learn from what we like."
—Mahesh Chengalwa, 16 B, Madhuban, Foreshore Rd. Bombay

In Partha, the emphasis is not on adding to our information, but on helping us to be self-dependent. It helps us to develop willpower, self-confidence and concentration of mind... It helps us to think for ourselves ....
—Ruchira Bathgen in an interview with Navbharat Times.

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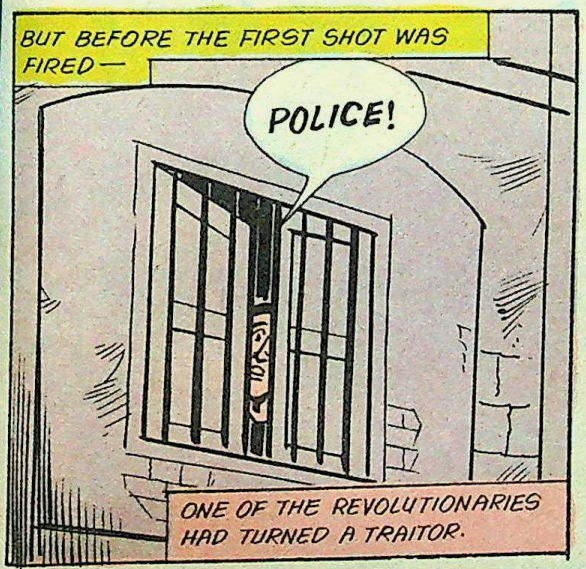

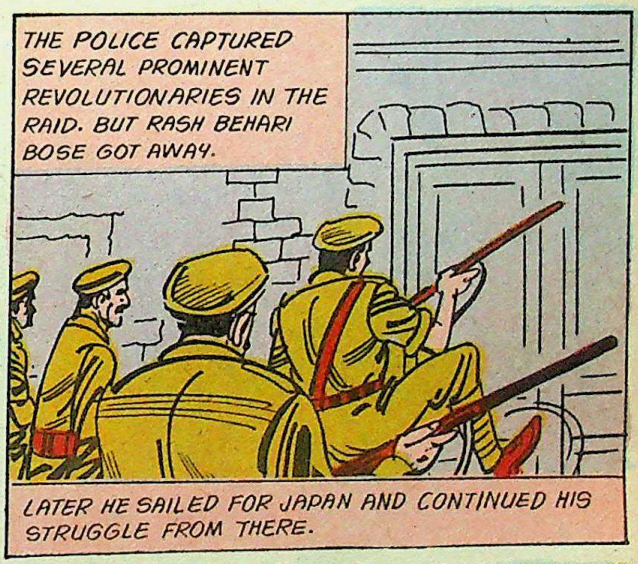

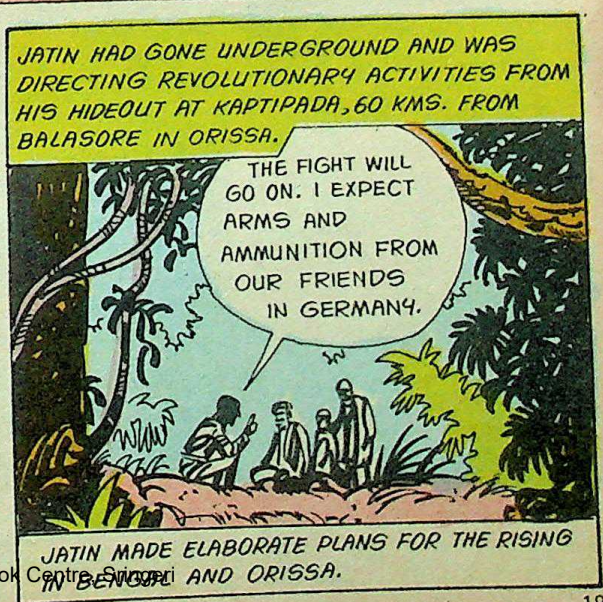

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THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE ALARMED AT THE INCREASING NUMBER OF REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES.

FOR EVERY ONE SENTENCED, TEN GET AWAY FOR WANT OF EVIDENCE.

WE NEED STRINGENT LAWS TO PUT THESE TERRIORISTS BEHIND BARS.

THE GOVERNMENT APPOINTED A COMMISSION UNDER MR. ROWLATT TO STUDY REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES AND TO SUGGEST WAYS AND MEANS TO DEAL WITH THEM.

THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATION OF ROWLATT COMMISSION AND IN 1919 CAME OUT WITH THE INFAMOUS ROWLATT ACTS.

GOOD! NOW WE HAVE AUTHORITY TO ARREST ANY-ONE ON MERE SUSPICION.

NO NEED TO TRY HIM IN COURT. NO ONE TO QUESTION US. JUST DUMP HIM IN THE CELLAR — GOOD.

HOWEVER, OUR COUNTRYMEN UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GANDHIJI PROTESTED AGAINST THE BLACK LAWS AND HELD PROTEST MEETINGS.

IT WAS AT ONE SUCH PEACEFUL MEETINGS AT JALLIANWALLA BAGH IN AMRITSAR THAT GENERAL DYER OPENED FIRE.

DYER'S MEN CEASED FIRING ONLY WHEN THEY RAN OUT OF AMMUNITION. THEY WITHDREW LEAVING BEHIND A THOUSAND MEN DEAD AND THREE TIMES THAT NUMBER WOUNDED.

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A TWELVE-YEAR-OLD BOY VISITED JALLIANWALLA BAGH AND COLLECTED SAMPLES OF THE BLOOD-SOAKED EARTH

THIS EARTH IS SACRED. THIS IS SOAKED WITH THE BLOOD OF MARTYRS.

THE BOY WAS BHAGAT SINGH.

AROUND THE SAME TIME IN DISTANT VARANASI, A YOUNG LAD WAS PRODUCED BEFORE A MAGISTRATE FOR SHOUTING SLOGANS. WHEN QUESTIONED —

MY NAME IS AZAD. FREEDOM IS MY FATHER'S NAME AND JAIL IS MY HOME.

!

THE YOUNG LAD WAS CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD.

THE YOUNGSTERS BECAME MEMBERS OF THE HINDUSTAN REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION, A REVOLUTIONARY ORGANISATION. THEIR LEADER WAS RAMPRASAD BISMIL. THE SENIOR MEMBERS WERE CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD, ASHFAQULLA, ROSHAN SINGH AND RAJENDRA LAHIRI.

LET'S LOOT THE GOVERNMENT TREASURY WHILE IT IS BEING TRANSPORTED BY TRAIN.

IT WAS THE EVENING OF THE 9TH OF AUGUST, 1925. AT KAKORI, A FEW MILES FROM LUCKNOW IN UTTAR PRADESH —

DON'T ANY OF YOU DARE MAKE A SOUND. NO ONE WILL BE HARMED. WE ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN THE STATE TREASURY'S SAFE THAT IS ON THIS TRAIN.

THE NEXT DAY —

KAKORI CONSPIRACY! KAKORI CONSPIRACY!

Sri Vidyabharati Book Centre, Srirangam

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HOWEVER, THE POLICE ROUNDED UP ALL THE REVOLUTIONARIES WHO HAD TAKEN PART IN THE TRAIN ROBBERY EXCEPT AZAD.

EVEN IF I HAVE TO FACE DEATH A THOUSAND TIMES FOR THE SAKE OF MY MOTHERLAND, I SHALL NOT BE SORRY. OH LORD! GRANT ME A HUNDRED BIRTHS IN BHARAT. BUT GRANT ME THIS, TOO, THAT EACH TIME I MAY GIVE UP MY LIFE IN THE SERVICE OF THE MOTHERLAND.

SUCH WAS THE FERVOUR OF RAMPRASAD BISMIL.

TASADRUK KHAN, THE POLICE SUPERINTENDENT TRIED TO WIN OVER ASHFAQULLA.

THE HINDUS ARE FIGHTING TO WIN BACK THEIR KINGDOM. WHY SHOULD MUSLIMS FIGHT FOR HINDU INDIA?

KHAN SAHEB, I AM QUITE SURE HINDU INDIA WILL BE MUCH BETTER THAN BRITISH INDIA.

OF COURSE ASHFAQULLA, BISMIL AND OTHERS WERE FIGHTING FOR ALL OUR COUNTRYMEN. ASHFAQULLA WROTE —

A MAN IS BOUND TO DIE; SO WHY SHOULD ANYONE BE AFRAID OF DEATH ? LET OUR MOTHER-LAND BECOME FREE... WHAT MATTERS WHETHER WE BE ALIVE OR DEAD ?

DEC. 18, 1927 : RAJENDRA LAHIRI WAS HANGED.
DEC. 19, 1927 : RAMPRASAD BISMIL AND ASHFAQULLA WERE HANGED.
DEC. 20, 1927 : ROSHAN SINGH WAS HANGED.

THE HANGINGS STRENGTHENED THE WILL OF AZAD, BHAGAT AND OTHER REVOLUTIONARIES. THEY CONTINUED THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. ON BHAGAT SINGH'S SUGGESTION, THEY CALLED THEIR ORGANISATION THE HINDUSTAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION.

WE WILL ESTABLISH A SOCIETY WHICH IS FREE FROM EXPLOITATION.

WE WANT FREEDOM FOR OUR COUNTRY. WE WILL NOT BEG FOR IT BUT WILL OBTAIN IT AS OUR RIGHT.

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MEANWHILE THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS CONTINUED THE NON-VIOLENT STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GANDHIJI. DURING ONE OF ITS DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE SIMON COMMISSION IN LAHORE...

...LALA LAJPATRAI, THE VETERAN FREEDOM FIGHTER, WAS FATALLY INJURED.

THE REVOLUTIONARIES DECIDED TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF THE LALA. THE MEN CHOSEN FOR THE MISSION WERE BHAGAT SINGH AND RAJ GURU.

BY THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE WHOLE OF INDIA HAD HEARD OF THE INCIDENT. POSTERS APPEARED ALL OVER LAHORE.

HINDUSTAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION. FOES OF THE COUNTRY— DEPART! BHARAT MATA KI JAI!

BLOOD FOR BLOOD

SAUNDERS IS DEAD! LALAJI'S MURDER HAS BEEN AVENGED!

THESE REVOLUTIONARIES WILL NOT TAKE ANYTHING LYING DOWN. NEITHER DO THEY MAKE EMPTY THREATS.

BHAGAT SINGH CAME OUT WITH A PROPOSAL TO AROUSE THE NATION FROM ITS SLUMBER AND COMPEL THE AUTHORITIES TO TAKE NOTICE OF THE DEEP-ROOTED DISCONTENT AMONG THE PEOPLE.

WE HAVE TO DROP A BOMB. NOT TO KILL BUT TO MAKE THE DEAF HEAR.

THE ONE WHO THROWS THE BOMB SHOULD COURT ARREST. LATER HE SHOULD USE THE COURT AS A PLATFORM TO AROUSE PUBLIC OPINION. OUR ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT TRIAL WILL ACT AS A DAILY REMINDER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE OBJECTIVES THEY HAVE BEFORE THEM.

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APRIL 8, 1929 WAS THE CHOSEN DATE. THE VENUE: THE CENTRAL ASSEMBLY IN DELHI. FROM THE VISITORS' GALLERY BHAGAT SINGH HURLED A BOMB AND HIS COMPANION BATUKESHWAR DUTTA THREW DOWN LEAFLETS.

THE TWO REVOLUTIONARIES COURTED ARREST ALTHOUGH THEY COULD HAVE EASILY ESCAPED IN THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWED.

LATER IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT, ASAF ALI, THE LAWYER, READ OUT THE STATEMENT PREPARED BY BHAGAT SINGH.

WE DROPPED THE BOMB... TO REGISTER OUR PROTEST ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO HAD NO OTHER MEANS LEFT TO GIVE EXPRESSION TO THEIR HEART-RENDING AGONY... OUR SOLE PURPOSE WAS TO MAKE THE DEAF HEAR AND GIVE THE HEEDLESS A TIMELY WARNING.

CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD MANAGED TO ELUDE THE POLICE. HOWEVER ON FEB. 27, 1931, THE POLICE TOOK HIM BY SURPRISE IN A GARDEN — ALFRED PARK*

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG

AZAD CONTINUED TO FIRE DESPITE INJURIES RECEIVED FROM THE POLICE BULLETS.

BANG

FOR THIRTY-TWO MINUTES AZAD HELD THE POLICE AT BAY. WHEN HE WAS LEFT WITH ONLY ONE BULLET HE RAISED HIS MUZZLE TO HIS TEMPLE AND PRESSED THE TRIGGER.

BHAGAT SINGH, RAJ GURU AND SUKHDEV WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH. MARCH 23, 1931. AS BHAGAT SINGH WALKED UP TO THE GALLOWS —

YOU WILL KILL US BUT NOT THE PATRIOTISM IN US. THE FRAGRANCE OF FREEDOM SHALL RISE FROM OUR PYRES.

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*NOW AZAD PARK

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MEANWHILE SURYA SEN AND THE SOLDIERS OF HIS INDIAN SOCIALIST REPUBLICAN ARMY* CONTINUED TO HAUNT THE BRITISH IN BENGAL. SURYA SEN HAD STRUCK THE FIRST BLOW ON APRIL 18, 1930 WHEN HIS BOYS SUCCESSFULLY RAIDED THE CHITTAGONG ARMOURY. THEY COLLECTED ALL THE ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS THEY COULD CARRY AND SET FIRE TO THE REST.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WIRES WERE CUT...

...AND RAILWAY TRACKS WERE BLOCKED.

MASTERDA, AS SURYA SEN WAS AFFECTIONATELY CALLED, ADDRESSED A MEETING.

CHITTAGONG IS LIBERATED. THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM WILL CONTINUE. OUR MOTTO IS — LIBERTY OR DEATH.

POLICE

*CHITTAGONG BRANCH

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THE BRITISH MUSTERED A STRONG FORCE AND SURROUNDED THE HILLS OF JALALABAD, NEAR CHITTAGONG, WHERE THE FREEDOM-FIGHTERS HAD TAKEN UP POSITIONS. AS THE SOLDIERS CAME WITHIN FIRING RANGE—

FRIENDS, OPEN FIRE.

HIDDEN BULLETS THE BRITISH SOLDIERS TUMBLED DOWN.

THE BRITISH SOLDIERS THEN TOOK POSITIONS ON A NEARBY HILL AND THEIR MACHINE-GUNS BEGAN TO SPILL FIRE.

THEY CEASED FIRE LATE IN THE NIGHT.

THEY CAME EARLY THE NEXT MORNING AND FOUND 12 DEAD BODIES.

MASTERDA AND SURYA SEN AND OTHERS, HAD ESCAPED.

FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS MASTERDA AND HIS GUERRILLA FORCE OF MEN AND WOMEN CONTINUED TO WAGE WARFARE. MASTERDA WAS TAKEN PRISONER ON MAY 19, 1933 AND WAS HANGED ON JANUARY 12, 1934.

SURYA SEN AND HIS COMRADE TARAKESHWAR DASTIDAR, WHO WAS HANGED ON THE SAME DAY WERE GIVEN A BURIAL IN THE SEA.

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THE HANGINGS DID INFLAME THE YOUTH OF THE COUNTRY. IN FEBRUARY 1932, SIR STANLEY JACKSON, THE GOVERNOR OF BENGAL AND CHANCELLOR OF CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY, CAME TO THE CONVOCATION HALL—

AS HE GOT UP TO DELIVER THE CONVOCATION ADDRESS, A YOUNG GIRL CALLED BINA DAS, WHO WAS IN HER CONVOCATION GOWN, SHOT AT HIM.

THE GOVERNOR DUCKED AND ESCAPED UNHURT. THE MARSHALLS POUNCED ON THE YOUNG BUT DANGEROUS GRADUATE...

BANG

...AND PRODUCED HER BEFORE THE COURT.

IS LIFE WORTH LIVING IN AN INDIA SUBJECTED TO THE WRONG AND CONTINUALLY GROANING UNDER THE TYRANNY OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT...

...I BELIEVE THAT A PERSON WHO IS A SLAVE POLITICALLY CANNOT REALIZE GOD WHO IS THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM... IT WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING THIS FACT HOME TO THE MEMBERS IN INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES THAT I SELECTED THE CONVOCATION HALL OF MY SACRED ALMA MATER AS MY FIELD OF ACTION.

BINA DAS WAS SENTENCED TO NINE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

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IN 1915 AFTER THE ABORTED UPRISING, RASH BEHARI ESCAPED TO JAPAN. WHEN THE SECOND WORLD WAR BROKE OUT, HE TOURED SOUTH-EAST ASIA, BUILDING UP HIS INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY. HE DID NOT HESITATE TO JOIN HANDS WITH THE JAPANESE TO ACHIEVE HIS AIM.

OUR AIM IS TO WIN FREEDOM FOR INDIA. WE WELCOME HELP FROM ALL QUARTERS. WE SHALL FIGHT OUR BATTLES WITH SUCH HELP, IF POSSIBLE, BUT WITHOUT IT IF NECESSARY.

ON JULY 4, 1943 HE HANDED OVER THE COMMAND TO SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AT A PARADE HELD IN SINGAPORE.

AS LONG AS THERE IS BREATH IN MY BODY I SHALL BE THE SOLDIER THAT I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN — THE SOLDIER IN THE BATTLE FOR MOTHER INDIA'S FREEDOM.

INDIAN SOLDIERS DESERTED THE BRITISH ARMY AND SWELLED THE RANKS OF AZAD HIND FAUJ. NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SET UP A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF FREE INDIA IN SINGAPORE. JAPAN HANDED OVER THE ANDAMANS AND NICOBAR ISLANDS TO AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT.

IT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT THE ISLAND WHERE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WERE HELD PRISONERS IS THE FIRST TO BE LIBERATED.

ON MARCH 18, 1944 THE AZAD HIND FAUZ CROSSED THE BURMA BORDER. ITS MEN KISSED THE SACRED SOIL OF INDIA.

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SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ADDRESSED THE AZAD HIND FAUZ.

HARK, INDIA IS CALLING, INDIA'S METROPOLIS DELHI IS CALLING, THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY EIGHT MILLIONS OF OUR COUNTRYMEN ARE CALLING.... THE ROAD TO DELHI IS THE ROAD TO FREEDOM.

HOWEVER, THE ALLIES EMERGED VICTORIOUS IN THE WAR. THE AZAD HIND SOLDIERS COULD NOT EXPECT JAPANESE BACKING ANYMORE. THEY WERE ON THEIR OWN.

THEY FOUGHT VALIANTLY.

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE WAS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN AN AIR CRASH. HUNDREDS OF MEN AND WOMEN DIED FIGHTING. THE SURVIVORS WERE CAPTURED.

THEIR TRIAL WAS HELD AT THE HISTORIC RED FORT. IT AWAKENED NATION-WIDE INTEREST. THE ACCUSED WERE SET FREE.

THE QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT LAUNCHED BY MAHATMA GANDHI CREATED AN UPSURGE. THE SECOND WORLD WAR WHICH HAD JUST ENDED HAD DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES ON THE BRITISH ECONOMY. THE BRITISH CAME TO THE INEVITABLE CONCLUSION THAT THEY COULD NOT HOLD ON TO INDIA MUCH LONGER. WHEN INDIA BECAME FREE ON AUGUST 15, 1947, PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU HOISTED THE TRICOLOUR ATOP THE RED FORT — THE VERY PLACE WHERE THE AZAD HIND SOLDIERS HAD BEEN PUT ON TRIAL.

Sri Vidyabharathi Book Cen

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At hide 'n' seek, Renu's friends
Always make her play the den
there must be something to be done
All by myself and yet have fun!

With my set of Ekco pens
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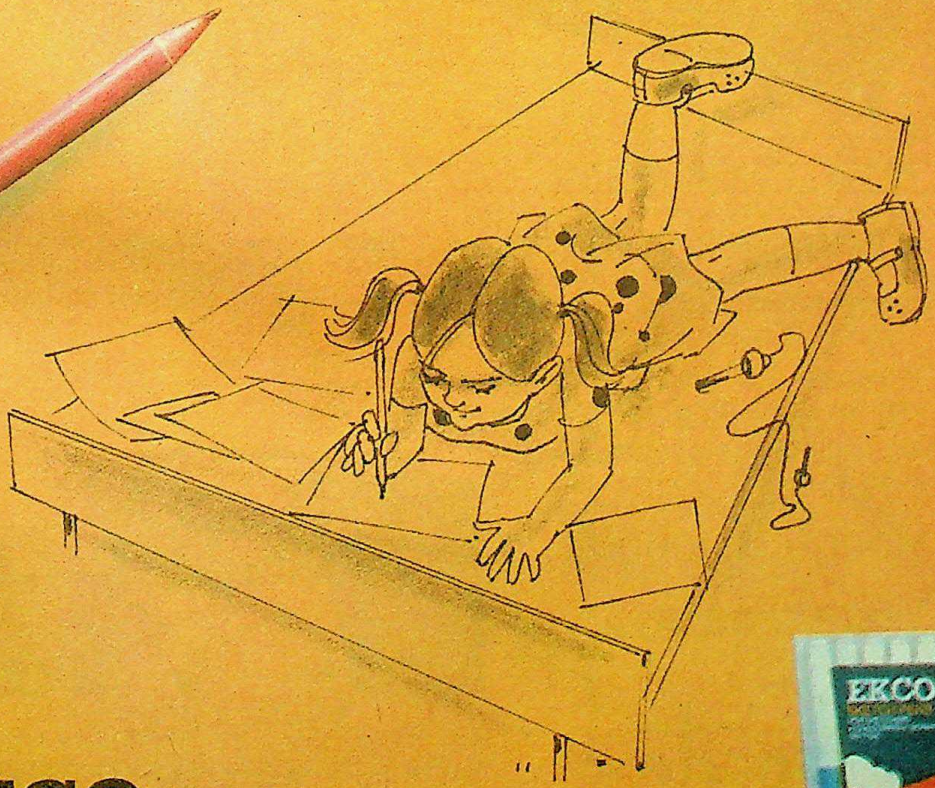

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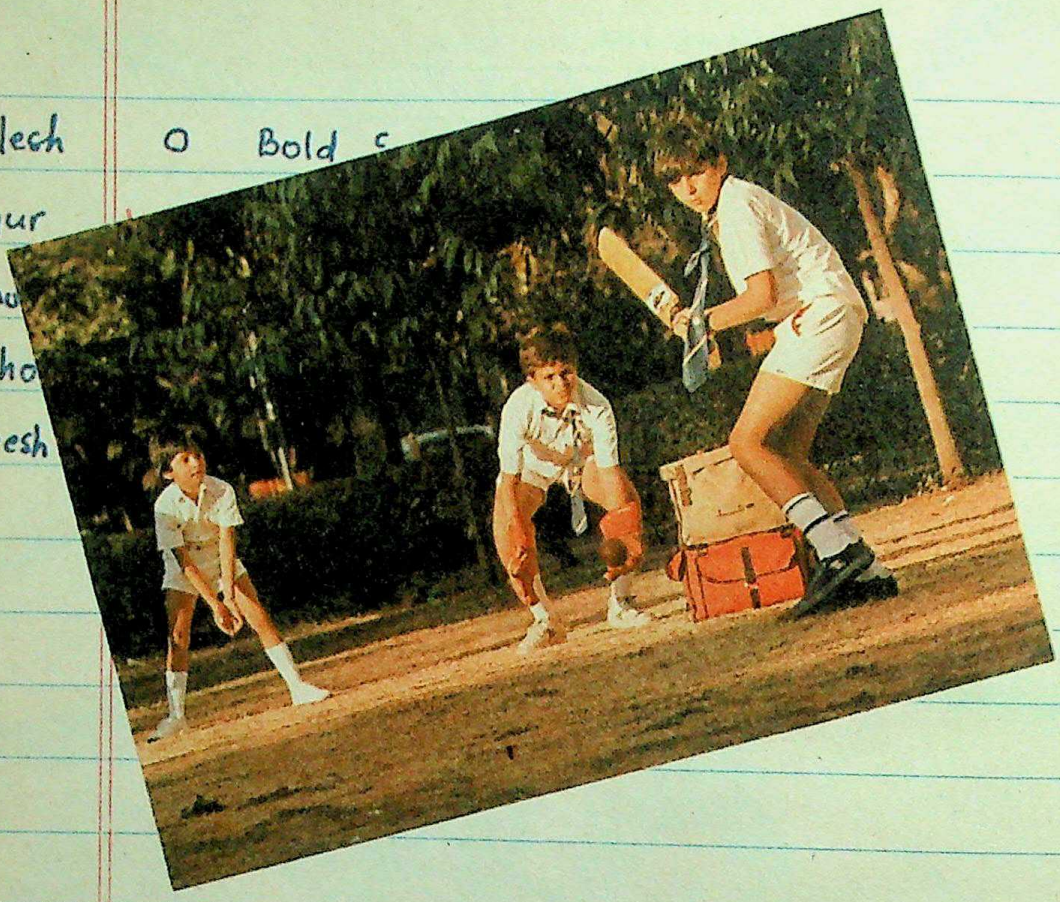

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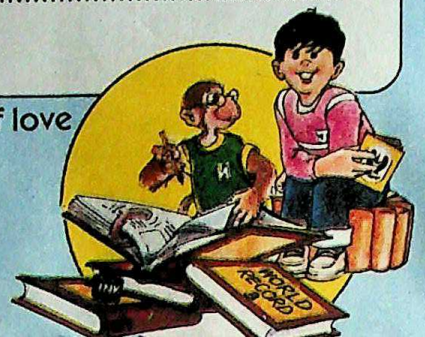

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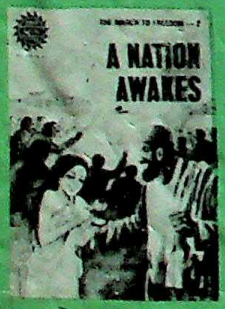

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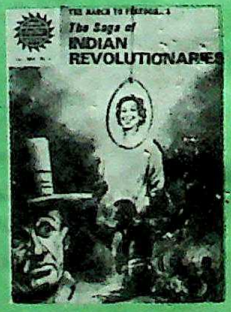

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